

Top Gadhafi Loyalists Flee

HADEEL AL-SHALCHI
MAGGIE MICHAEL
Associated Press

TARHOUNA, Libya (AP) — Convoys of Moammar Gadhafi loyalists, including his security chief, fled across the Sahara into Ni-



Libya rebel local military chief and mosque preacher Sheikh Hussein Furjani, checks explosive devices found during a raid on the house of a suspected Gadhafi supporter in Khaled El Furjan district in Tripoli, Libya, Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011. Rebel fighters burst into houses of suspected Gadhafi supporters, searching rooms and hauling away military uniforms, looted goods and documents linking homeowners to the former regime.

(AP Photo/Francois Mori)

ger on Tuesday in a move that Libya's former rebels hoped could help lead to the surrender of his last strongholds.

Still, efforts to negotiate the peaceful handover of one of the most crucial of those bastions, the city of Bani Walid, proved difficult.

Tribal elders from Bani Walid who met Tuesday with former rebels were confronted by angry residents of the city, including Gadhafi supporters, who fired in the air and sent them fleeing, mediators said.

Continued on Page 8

Lone Wolf



Sheriff: Gunman used AK-47 in restaurant attack

Carson City Sheriff Ken Furlong, center, holds a news conference outside the IHOP restaurant in Carson City, Nev., on Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011, after a gunman opened fire with an AK-47, killing three and injuring six.

(AP Photo/C. Allison)

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Sheriff: Gunman used AK-47 in restaurant attack

SANDRA CHEREB

Associated Press

CARSON CITY, Nevada (AP) —

A man with an AK-47 assault rifle shot a group of five uniformed National Guard members eating breakfast at a Nevada restaurant, killing two of them and another person in a hail of gunfire.

The suspect, 32-year-old Eduardo Sencion, shot himself and later died at a hospital.

Eight people were wounded in the attack in the state's capital, three of them National Guard members.

The gunman's motive was unclear, but Carson City Sheriff Kenny Furlong said that "obviously with five out of the 11 victims uniformed National Guardsmen, that has taken a priority interest in our investigation."

Sencion worked at his family's business in South Lake Tahoe, he was not in the military, and he had no known affiliations with any-

one at the restaurant, Furlong said. He also had no criminal history.

Sencion's family raised

concerns about his mental health in interviews with investigators, Furlong said. He did not elaborate.



With bullet holes seen in a window, officers look for evidence at the scene of a shooting at an IHOP restaurant in Carson City, Nev. on Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011. Seven people were wounded after a gunman opened fire at the restaurant, authorities said. (AP Photo/Cathleen Allison)

The owner of a nearby barbecue restaurant described a frantic scene in which the gunman pulled up and immediately shot a man on a motorcycle, then charged into the restaurant where the Guard members were meeting.

Nevada officials first worried about the violence being more widespread. They locked down the state Capitol and Supreme Court buildings for about 40 minutes, and put extra security in place at state and military buildings in northern Nevada.

"There were concerns at the onset, so we took certain steps to ensure we had the capability to embrace an even larger circumstance," Furlong said. "At this point in time it appears to be isolated to this parking lot."

The restaurant is about four miles (6 kilometers) from the Guard's headquarters complex. Nevada National Guard spokeswoman April

Conway said she didn't know why the five Guard members had met at the restaurant.

At a Reno hospital, service members gathered, waiting for word on those killed and hurt. A hospital spokesman said four shooting victims were being treated there, but wouldn't discuss their conditions or provide any other information.

"You go a whole tour in Afghanistan and no one is shot. And you go to (a restaurant) and several are shot," said 31-year-old Sgt. First Class Cameron Anderson of Reno, a Nevada Army National Guard member. "It's a shock. I came to work today and had no idea I'd be driving the chaplain here (to the hospital)."

Associated Press writers Michelle Rindels, Ken Ritter and Oskar Garcia in Las Vegas; Martin Griffith in Reno; and Scott Sonner in Carson City contributed to this report. □

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Romney lays out plan to revive economy

ASHLEY PARKER
MOTOKO RICH

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NORTH LAS VEGAS, Nev. — Mitt Romney unveiled his plan to rejuvenate the U.S. economy here Tuesday, offering a detailed outline that includes repealing President Barack Obama's health care law, cutting the corporate tax rate, placing sanctions on China as a currency manipulator and immediately reducing taxes on savings and investment by the middle class — and promising to push many of these policies on his first day in the Oval Office.

With his business background, Romney has portrayed himself as the presidential candidate best prepared to steer the nation at this time of economic distress, and his economic plan is a classic Republican blueprint that relies on tax cuts and reduced regulation — not stimulus — to jumpstart the economy.

Standing in front of a large banner that read "Day One, Job One," Romney detailed the 10 actions he would take the first day of his presidency.

Five are executive orders, and the other five are pieces of legislation, including the tax changes, that he would send to Congress and request action on within 30 days.

"The right course for America is to believe in growth," Romney, a former Massachusetts governor, said at the McCandless International Trucks dealership here. "Growing our econo-

my is the way to get people to work and to balance our national budget."

In the plan, whose stated goal is to "restore America to the path of robust economic growth necessary to create jobs," he promised to immediately cut the corporate income tax rate, currently topping out at 35 percent, to 25 percent. Although he did not outline any specific proposals for closing loopholes or otherwise simplifying the tax code, he also promised to make permanent the tax cuts on individuals enacted under President George W. Bush and to eliminate taxes on dividends, interest and capital gains for anyone making less than \$200,000 a year.

In an effort to stimulate U.S. exports, Romney said he would push free-trade agreements with Colombia, Panama and South Korea as well as officially place sanctions on China for keeping its currency artificially low, a move that makes Chinese imports cheap to U.S. consumers and has led to trade imbalances.

Romney also vowed to make it easier for U.S. companies to drill for oil in the United States and to cut federal discretionary spending on anything other than security measures by 5 percent — or \$20 billion. He said he would consolidate government training programs and order that any new regulations add no new costs to the economy. Romney's speech came

the day before a Republican debate — which will be the first time Romney will share the stage with Gov. Rick Perry of Texas, whom polls show as leading the pack of presidential hopefuls — and just two days before Obama is scheduled to deliver his own jobs plan to a joint session of Con-

poraneously in what he dubbed a "conversation" — though his campaign did hand out a 160-page policy book filled with graphs, charts and proposals. The plan, they emphasized, was geared toward long-term solutions, not short-term fixes.

As he spoke, Romney held

Likening Obama to a man jamming quarters into a pay phone and not understanding why it is not working, he added, "It's not connected anymore, Mr. President."

Though the Romney plan offers some standard Republican principles, like reducing corporate and individual tax rates and repealing the president's health care and financial legislation, aides said Romney's distinctive stamp could be seen on the proposal for a "Reagan Economic Zone," which would open up trade with countries that agreed to offer greater protections to intellectual property, as well as for those placing sanctions on China and consolidating federal training programs and giving states authority to design and carry out training programs for unemployed workers.

In a Web video released Tuesday, one of Romney's opponents, Jon M. Huntsman Jr., a former Utah governor, sharply criticized Romney's record for job creation, calling it "one of the saddest records" and "sadly similar to that of Obama's." □



Republican presidential hopeful former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney talks about his plan for creating jobs and improving the economy during a speech Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011, in Las Vegas, at McCandless International Trucks.

(AP Photo/Julie Jacobson)

gress.

On the campaign trail, Romney has focused on his business background and two decades in the private sector, and his plan is a stark rebuke of Obama's economic leadership, criticizing a broad range of policies including restrictions on domestic energy production and the regulatory reach of the government.

Earlier this year in Michigan, Romney used PowerPoint to outline his own health care plan, but he gave Tuesday's proposals extem-

up his iPhone to make an analogy about the changing world. "President Obama's strategy is a pay-phone strategy," he said, "and we're a smartphone world."

New Times Editor names 2 to senior jobs

JEREMY W. PETERS

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NEW YORK — In her first day as executive editor of The New York Times, Jill Abramson on Tuesday announced the appointment of two new assistant managing editors to help round out her senior management team. Susan Chira, the foreign editor since 2004, will help oversee the daily news departments of The Times. Richard L. Berke, who has held various high-level editing positions at the paper,

including most recently as national editor, will oversee the features departments and weekly sections. Both will report to Dean Baquet, the managing editor for news, who will steer coverage across print and digital platforms.

John M. Geddes, the managing editor for operations, will add The Times' online ventures to his portfolio, giving a senior newsroom manager a leading role in coordinating with the business management to iden-

tify new digital endeavors. Working closely with Geddes will be William E. Schmidt, deputy managing editor, and Jim Roberts, assistant managing editor for digital operations.

In a memo to staff members, Abramson said she planned to focus her efforts on two areas: news and digital interaction and integration. The new appointments, she said, are intended to create a management team with clearly defined roles. □

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After bloodshed, some in NYC question parade

KAREN MATTHEWS
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Some city residents wondered Tuesday if it's time to pull the plug on the gaudy West Indian Day parade, scarred by violence repeatedly in the last few years, after two people were killed in a wild police shootout just blocks from its route.

"I was saying to myself a while ago they probably should shut it down," said Winston Thomas, a 66-year-old who moved from Jamaica to Brooklyn, site of the annual Caribbean-themed Labor Day parade, 40 years ago.

"If you create this kind of atmosphere where you're killing people all the time, it don't make sense. ... I stay away from it." Mayor Michael Bloomberg blamed illegal handguns for a post-parade exchange Monday night between police and a gunman. The shooting left the gunman's target and a bystander dead and the gunman gravely wounded, police said Tuesday. Two officers suffered minor injuries.

The bystander, 56-year-old Denise Gay, was shot while sitting on a stoop with her daughter just two doors down from the exchange

man or by one of eight officers who fired a total of 73 bullets at him. The shooting capped a dramatic spike in gun vio-

lence in recent days across the city. There were 52 shootings for a four-day period starting Friday, including three along the parade route Monday afternoon, police said.

ful reminder, I think, of what happens when elected officials in Washington fail to take the problem of illegal guns seriously."

The Brooklyn block where Gay lived was cordoned off with police tape Tuesday. Neighbors said the area — a gentrifying slice of Crown Heights where hip coffee shops abut discount stores and West Indian bakeries — is generally safe.

"This is a very safe neighborhood," resident Dennis McGreevy said. "This is one incident that happened here, that because it involves an innocent bystander and because it involves the police, has drawn a lot of news coverage."

The gunman emerged and shot at a man who was fleeing in the direction of Gay's address on the same block. The gunman turned his pistol on the officers despite orders to drop it, New York Police Department spokesman Paul Browne said. One volley from the officers downed the man in his doorway, Browne said. When he started to rise and shoot again, they fired a second volley, which left him with chest and hip wounds, police said. He was hospitalized Tuesday in critical condition.

The shooter's target — a neighbor with whom he had been arguing — was hit in the neck and collapsed on the street and died. Witnesses had said he was armed, but no gun was recovered.



Dressed to take part in the festivities, Maya Joseph, right, laughs with others as they wait for the start of the West Indian Day Parade Monday Sept. 5, 2011 in the Brooklyn borough of New York.

(AP Photo/Tina Fineberg)

The parade was marred by fatal shootings in 2003 and 2005. Bloomberg said Gay's death was "a senseless murder and another pain-

lence in recent days across the city. There were 52 shootings for a four-day period starting Friday, including three along the parade route Monday afternoon, police said.

"This is a very safe neighborhood," resident Dennis McGreevy said. "This is one inci-

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Loss of top aides raises questions about Bachmann

TRIP GABRIEL
M. D. SHEAR
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The departure of Rep. Michele Bachmann's top two campaign aides raises fundamental questions about how she moves forward over the coming weeks, and whether she can remain a top-tier contender for the Republican presidential nomination.

Ed Rollins, the well-known strategist whom Bachmann hired as campaign manager in June, stepped aside Monday night because of ill health, the campaign said. But despite that explanation, his departure and the resignation of his deputy, David Polyansky, was seen by outside strategists and some Bachmann supporters as evidence that the campaign was at a critical juncture.

Bachmann's momentum has slowed considerably since Gov. Rick Perry of Texas entered the race the



Republican presidential candidates Rep. Michele Bachmann take part in the American Principles Project Palmetto Freedom Forum in Columbia, S.C.

(AP Photo/ Mary Ann Chastain)

same weekend last month that she won the Iowa straw poll in Ames, a victory Rollins helped to engineer. She is now running well behind Perry and Mitt Romney, a former Massachusetts governor, in national polls, which suggest, more critically, that she has given

an advertisement last week depicting Perry as not a true conservative. Campaign insiders portrayed the departures of Rollins and Polyansky as personal decisions unrelated to any disagreements over strategy. Neither would comment for this article. But the departures are also part of a pattern of top staff members' leaving Bachmann, often after short periods. She has parted ways with

half a dozen chiefs of staff in her congressional office since 2007. "She loves when things are going well, and when things aren't going well, it's very tough times," said Ron Carey, a former chief of staff who left in July 2010. "I think what brought this to a head was the lack of momentum coming out of Ames, and knowing Michelle as I have for 10 years, she has probably been beside herself off-camera." □

Family of man killed in Mississippi sues suspects

KIM SEVERSON
© 2011 New York Times

ATLANTA — The family of a black man run down and killed in a motel parking lot in Jackson, Miss., filed a wrongful death lawsuit Tuesday against the white teenagers they say are responsible. The lawsuit, filed in Hinds County Circuit Court in Jackson, depicts the death of James Craig Anderson as a racially motivated attack and outlines an evening of drinking that culminated with a caravan of teenagers from a largely white suburban county driving 16 miles to Jackson

intent on harassing African-Americans.

"We want to send a message to people who want to use race as a reason to target someone," said Morris Dees of the Southern Poverty Law Center, who joined Winston Thompson III, the family's lawyer, in filing the suit. "It appears this group went out to target a black person," Dees said. The suit was also designed to offer Anderson's family some financial compensation, although it did not specify an amount. "There is a good possibility of a lot of insurance in this case,"

said Dees, who included charges of negligence as a way to tap into the homeowner's policies of some of the families of the young people involved. Anderson, 48, died shortly after 5 a.m. on June 26. He had been leaving a motel in south Jackson and had either lost his keys or locked them in his truck, the police said. Images from a widely circulated security video show that two carloads of teenagers drove into the parking lot. Some jumped out and went toward Anderson, who was near his truck. □

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Officials:

2 killed in massive Central Texas blaze

JIM VERTUNO

Associated Press

BASTROP, Texas (AP) — A

massive wildfire that destroyed at least 600 homes in Central Texas has killed two people, authorities said Tuesday.

Bastrop County Sheriff Terry Pickering said he had no details about the victims, including when or how they died.

The fire was the largest of dozens burning throughout the drought-stricken state. It started Sunday near the town of Bastrop, about 25 miles (40 kilometers) south of Austin, and quickly spread, fanned in part by winds from Tropical Storm Lee, which dumped its rain on Gulf Coast states further east.

The state Forest Service said Tuesday morning that firefighters hadn't begun to contain the fire, which had destroyed about 600 homes and forced the evacuation of hundreds of others.

State emergency manager State emergency management chief Nim Kidd said it was the most destructive fire of the year in Texas, and that the number of homes destroyed would likely go up after the hardest-hit areas are assessed.

Texas officials say more than 1,000 homes have been destroyed and more than 100,000 acres (40,469



Fire damage is seen in an aerial image taken over the wildfires in the Bastrop, Texas area Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011. More than 1,000 homes have been destroyed in at least 57 wildfires across rain-starved Texas, most of them in one devastating blaze near Austin that is still raging out of control, officials said Tuesday.

(AP Photo/San Antonio Express-News, William Luther)

blackened area near Bastrop on Tuesday.

"Pretty powerful visuals of individuals who lost everything," Perry said. "The magnitude of these losses are pretty stunning."

Some residents said they were surprised by how quickly the blaze engulfed their neighborhoods.

"We were watching TV and my brother-in-law said to come and see this," Dave Wilhelm, 38, who lives just east of Bastrop said. "All I saw was a fireball and some smoke. All of a sudden: Boom! We looked up and left."

Wilhelm returned Tuesday to find his neighbor's house and three vehicles gone, some of his own children's backyard toys destroyed but their house spared. □

hectares) have burned in wildfires over the past week.

A fast-moving blaze in the East Texas town of Glade-water on Sunday killed a 20-year-old woman and her 18-month-old daughter, trapping them in their burning home.

That fire was eventually extinguished.

Gov. Rick Perry, who cut short a presidential campaign trip to South Carolina on Monday to return to help oversee firefighting efforts in Texas, toured a

Texas town copes with drought

MANNY FERNANDEZ

© 2011 New York Times

LLANO, Tex. — When the people who run this small town in Central Texas put up hand-painted signs reading "No watering" in bold red letters, they really mean it.

Hundreds of lawns are dying in the 100-degree heat here, turning straw-colored and crunchy. The drought that has gripped much of Texas has forced Llano to adopt some of the toughest water restrictions in the state. Residents are prohibited from watering their lawns except for once a week early in the morning and late at night.

The filling of swimming pools, the washing of cars parked outside homes, the use of automatic or detachable sprinklers — all have been banned since June, by order of the City Council.

Government has always had a hard time telling Texans how to live. But the ban on most types of outdoor watering has been embraced by people in Llano, where a kind of World War II-era rationing spirit has become a way of life.

This has been the season of extremes in Texas — too



John Wedekind demonstrates how he sprays green dye on his dead grass during the severe drought conditions, in Llano, Texas. The drought that has gripped much of Texas has forced Llano to adopt some of the toughest mandatory water restrictions in the state, and people are embracing it with a kind of World War II-era rationing spirit has become a way of life.

(Erich Schlegel/The New York Times)

much fire and too little water. As towns and cities throughout the state have been coping with the extreme drought, dozens of wildfires that erupted over the Labor Day weekend continued to burn on Tuesday, destroying hundreds of homes and forcing thousands of people to evacuate.Â

To ease the drought-related strain on Llano's water system, Bryan Miiller, the owner of a meat-processing company, cut back his production schedule to four days a week from five,

reducing the water he uses to clean the equipment and work areas, although he was not required to do so under the restrictions. Restaurants are serving water only if a patron requests it, and a few residents and businesses, including local car washes, have gone through the trouble and expense of trucking in water from outside the city or from private wells.

Terry Mikulanka, manager of the city-owned 18-hole golf course, has been spraying treated sewer water on the greens. □



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Hispanics majority in US prisons

GARANKE BURKE
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — More than half of all people sentenced to serve time in U.S. federal prisons so far this year for felony crimes were Hispanic, a major demographic shift swollen by immigration offenses, according to a new government report released Tuesday.

Hispanics already outnumber all other ethnic groups sent to prison for committing federal felonies.

Hispanics reached a new milestone for the first time this year, making up the majority of all federal offenders in the first nine months of fiscal year 2011, according to the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

Hispanics comprised 50.3 percent of all people sentenced in that time period, blacks 19.7 percent and whites 26.4 percent.

In comparison, last year Hispanics made up just 16 percent of the whole U.S. population.

The commission's statistics also reveal that sentences for felony immigration crimes — which include illegal crossing and other crimes such as alien smuggling — were responsible for most of the increase in the number of Hispanics sent to prison over the last decade. The demographic change in who is being sent to federal prison has already prompted debate among commissioners and experts studying the impact of expedited court hearings along the border.

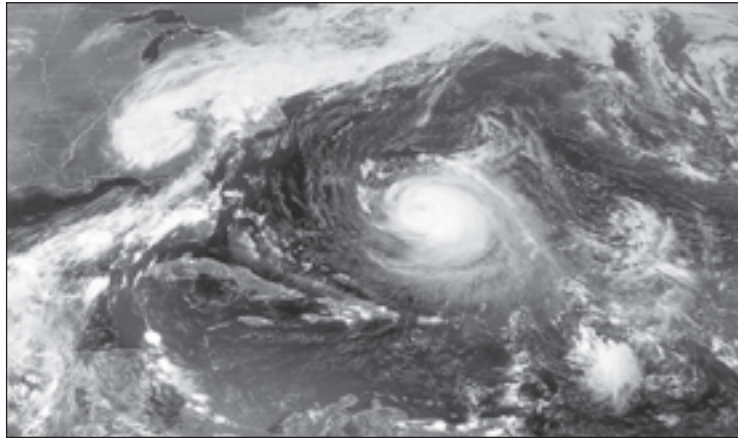
"Statistics like this have to start drawing attention to this country's immigration policies and what we're doing." □

Katia weakens to Category 2 hurricane

MIAMI (AP) — Hurricane Katia is continuing to weaken over the Atlantic Ocean and is now a Category 2 storm.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami says Katia's maximum sustained winds Tuesday had dropped to 105 mph (169 kph).

Forecast maps show Katia veering to the northeast away from the U.S. mainland in the coming week. But the hurricane center says large swells could affect the East Coast, Bermuda, the Greater Antilles and parts of the Bahamas



This NOAA satellite image taken Tuesday, September 06, 2011 at 10:45 AM EDT shows Hurricane Katia about 365 miles SSW of Bermuda. Moving eastward, a tropical wave, east of the Leeward Islands, is generating clouds and showers. In the Caribbean Sea, some showers and thunderstorms are noted from north of Panama to the border of northeastern Nicaragua and eastern Honduras.

(AP PHOTO)

over the next few days. Katia is centered about 345 miles (555 kilometers) south-southwest of Bermuda and moving northwest at 9 mph (15 kph).

Meanwhile, a new tropical depression formed over the Atlantic Ocean and could become a tropical storm by Tuesday evening. It pass over or near Puerto Rico by Sunday. □









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Top Gadhafi loyalists flee to Niger in desert trek

Continued from front

Many in Bani Walid remain deeply mistrustful of the forces that have seized power in Libya and are reluctant to accept their rule.

Some former rebels depicted the flight to Niger as a major exodus of Gadhafi's most hardcore backers. But confirmed information on the number and identity of those leaving was scarce as the convoy made its way across the vast swath of desert — over 1,000 miles — between populated areas on the two sides of the border.

Gadhafi himself is not in the convoys, the U.S. State Department said.

As the first group of a dozen vehicles pulled into Niger's capital, Niamey, a customs official said it included Mansour Dao, Gadhafi's security chief and a key member of his inner circle, as well as around 12 other Gadhafi regime officials.

The official, Harouna Ide, told The Associated Press other Libyan convoys had passed through Agadez, a town about halfway between Niger's border with Libya and its capital in the far southwest.

The convoys included heavily armed contingents of Tuareg tribal fighters from Niger, who have long been enlisted as mercenaries for Gadhafi's regime, Niger officials said.

A Gadhafi opponent said it was also carrying gold and cash belonging to the regime.

U.S. State Department



Libya rebels stand guard during a raid to find illegal weapons and belongings of suspected Gadhafi supporters in Khalet El Furjan district in Tripoli, Libya, Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011. Rebel fighters, weapons drawn, burst into houses, searching rooms and hauling away military uniforms, a looted safe and documents linking homeowners to the former regime.

(AP Photo/Francois Mori)

spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said the U.S. has urged Niger to detain anyone who might be subject to prosecution in Libya, confiscate weapons and impound any state property such as money or jewels that were illegally taken out of the country.

Nuland said some senior members of the Gadhafi regime were in the fleeing group, but not Gadhafi or members of his family.

The West African nation of Burkina Faso, which borders Niger, offered Gadhafi asylum last month, raising speculation the convoys were part of plan

to arrange passage there for the ousted leader.

But on Tuesday, Burkina Faso distanced itself from Gadhafi, indicating he would be arrested if he came there.

A significant move to escape by the top echelons of Gadhafi's military and security services could bring an important shift in Libya.

The Gadhafi opponents who toppled his regime by sweeping into Tripoli last month have been struggling to uproot the last bastions of his support, particularly in Bani Walid, Sirte and the southern city of Sabha. □

UN, Haiti, Uruguay probe sexual assault



In this picture taken Sept. 3, 2011, surrounded by relatives, an 18-year-old man who claims he was sexually abused by Uruguayan peacekeepers lies on his bed at his home in Port Salut, Haiti. A preliminary U.N. investigation has found no evidence for allegations that Uruguayan peacekeepers raped the 18-year-old man, Uruguay's Defense Ministry says, but the troops broke rules by having a civilian in their barracks. The alleged victim was snatched by a soldier outside the front gate of a U.N. base and was taken inside, according to the judge, Paul Tarte, and the alleged victim's mother.

(AP Photo/Dieu Nalio Chery)

EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

The United Nations, Haiti and Uruguay are investigating allegations that U.N. peacekeepers from Uruguay sexually abused an 18-year-old Haitian man, the United Nations said Tuesday. U.N. deputy spokesman Eduardo del Buey told reporters that the five alleged perpetrators have been confined to barracks pending the outcome of the three investigations.

The alleged attack oc-

curred on July 20 but only became public last week when a video taken by cell phone was circulated and the U.N. announced an investigation. The Uruguayan military has called the incident at the peacekeepers' base in Port-Salut on Haiti's south coast a prank that got out of hand and says a preliminary U.N. investigation shows no evidence of rape. "If the investigations prove that the allegations are true," del Buey said, "we would expect that these people be prosecuted in the full extent of the law." □

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Afghanistan struggles to build an army

RAY RIVERA

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KANDAHAR, Afghanistan

Every morning, jobless young men gather by the hundreds at the busy central square here in this southern city, desperate for whatever work they can find. In other places, this would be an army recruiter's dream. Not so in Kandahar. Many of the men here have brothers and cousins in the insurgency, or are former fighters themselves. Others fear what would happen to them or their families if they joined the Afghan Army.

"I don't want to be killed by the Taliban," Janan, 30, who like many Afghans goes by one name, said on a recent day as he jostled with the crowd under a scorching sun. Afghan and NATO officials have long struggled to entice young men in the heavily Pashtun south – the Taliban heartland – to join the Afghan Army. Despite years of efforts to increase the enlistment of southern Pashtuns, an analysis of recruitment patterns by The New York Times shows that the number of them joining the army remains relatively minuscule, reflecting a deep and lingering fear of the insurgents, or sympathy for them, as well as doubts about the stability and integrity of the central government in Kabul, the capital. The influx of tens of thousands of U.S. troops, who have pushed the Taliban back in much of the south, has done little to ease those concerns or to lift recruitment. In some places,

the numbers of southern Pashtun recruits are actually shrinking, causing an overall decline of nearly 30 percent from a year ago. As the deadline looms for the withdrawal of most foreign forces in 2014, the need to enlist more southern Pashtuns is pressing if Afghanistan is to have a national army that resembles the ethnic and geographic makeup of the country. It is no small concern. The absence of southern Pashtuns reinforces the impression here that the army is largely a northern institution – to be used against them – and what Afghan and Western officials worry is a dangerous division of the country. "If you go and talk to ordinary Afghans in Kandahar, they believe the government will collapse in a week or two," said Mahmood Khan, a member of Parliament from Kandahar. "People are still kind of under the spell of the Taliban. They believe it is not only stronger than the government, but that their intelligence is stronger. They can find out very soon if your son or brother is serving in the army."

The predominately Pashtun southern and southeastern provinces – Kandahar, Helmand, Oruzgan, Zabul, Paktika and Ghazni – make up about 17 percent of Afghanistan's total population, yet they contributed just 1.5 percent of the soldiers recruited since 2009. Some progress has been made, but merely in percentage terms; Kandahar and Helmand more than



Afghan special forces stand on a line after demonstrating their learned skills at the Kabul Military Training Center in Kabul, Afghanistan, Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011.

(AP Photo/Ahmad Nazar)

doubled their number of recruits last year from the previous year. The raw numbers, however, are discouraging, and officials worry that the recent erosion of security in Kandahar City could reverse the few gains they have made.

The two provinces are

home to nearly 2 million people. Yet since 2009 they have contributed fewer than 1,200 soldiers to the army, less than 1 percent of the nearly 173,000 enlistees in that period. By comparison, Kunduz, a northern province of about 900,000 people, enlisted more than

16,500 recruits. Oruzgan, a province of more than 300,000 residents, had 14 recruits all of last year. Not surprisingly, the vast majority of recruits come from provinces in the north and northeast, where the insurgency is weaker. While the overall representation of Pashtuns, Afghanistan's largest ethnic group, in the army is equitable – they make up about 42 percent of the population and roughly the same percentage of the army – the vast majority come from a few northeastern provinces. More than a third come from Nangarhar province alone. Trying to lure more southern Pashtuns, Ministry of Defense officials have made it easier for them to qualify for officer candidate school and have assigned two southern Pashtun generals to the region to focus on recruiting. □

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US scorns Syria for blaming terrorists

ZEINA KARAM

Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — The U.S. Embassy in Syria said Tuesday that President Bashar Assad is not fooling anyone by blaming terrorists and thugs for the unrest in his country as security forces try to crush the uprising by unleashing a brutal crackdown that has killed more than 2,200 people in nearly six months. In comments posted on the embassy's Facebook page, U.S. Ambassador Robert Ford said it was clear Assad's regime has no capacity for reform. "Peaceful protesters are not 'terrorists,' and after all the evidence accumulated over the past six months, no one except the Syrian government and its supporters believes that the peaceful protesters here are," he wrote.

Ford's comments came the same day that U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon leveled some of his strongest criticism yet at the Syrian regime, saying Assad must take "bold and decisive measures before it's too late." The statements were a reflection of the exasperation felt by the international community at the relentless crackdown that the U.N. says has killed 2,200 people since March, when the Syrian uprising began. In another sign of the intractability of the situation, a planned Wednesday visit by Arab League Secretary General Nabil Elaraby to push for an Arab plan to

defuse the crisis was called off at the last minute at the request of the Syrian government, two Arab League officials said. They requested anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to reporters. Nearly six months on, the unrest has descended into

"But the number of security service members killed is far, far lower than the number of unarmed civilians killed," he said. "No one in the international community accepts the justification from the Syrian government that those security service members' deaths justify the daily



Swiss Jakob Kellenberger, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), talks to the media about his visit to Syria and talks with Syrian president Bashar al-Assad, during a press conference at the ICRC headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011.

(AP Photo/Keystone/Salvatore Di Nolfi)

a bloody stalemate with neither side willing to back down. Assad has sealed the country from foreign journalists and most international observers, insisting that foreigners are meddling in his country and serving an outside conspiracy to destabilize the nation. Ban had won a pledge from Assad in a phone call in mid-August to end the violence, but the killings continued. Ford acknowledged that security forces have been killed. The regime estimates around 400 have died.

killings, beatings, extrajudicial detentions, torture and harassment of unarmed civilian protesters." On Tuesday, security forces opened fire from a checkpoint near the restive central city of Homs, killing two people, including a 15-year-old boy, activists said. They also said five unidentified corpses, including that of a woman, also were found dumped around the city center. A longtime political activist and resident of Homs said it was not clear if the killings had sectarian motives. □

Mexico:

Man smuggled grenade parts

MARK STEVENSON

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Police have arrested a U.S. man for smuggling American grenade parts into Mexico for use by the Sinaloa cartel, and a U.S. official said the case has now been included in investigations into flawed law enforcement operations aimed at gun-trafficking networks on the Mexican border. The arrest of a man who Mexican police identified as Jean Baptiste Kingery has provided details on a network that allegedly supplied hundreds of hand grenades to Mexico's powerful Sinaloa cartel. Such grenades have been blamed in the injuries or deaths of dozens of civilians in Mexico, where grenades have been tossed into public squares, streets, bars and nightclubs.

A U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives operation, known as Fast and Furious, was designed to track small-time gun buyers at several Phoenix-area gun shops up the chain to make cases against major weapons traffickers. But a congressional investigation says ATF agents of lost track of about 1,400 of the more than 2,000 guns whose purchase they had watched.

In Washington D.C., Justice Department spokeswoman Tracy Schmalzer said the department's inspector general has expanded that investigation to include the Kingery case.

"The department is aware of concerns raised" about the Kingery case "and has been looking into it," said Schmalzer. "We have notified Congress about this operation and offered to brief them on it." Schmalzer did not say specifically why the grenade-smuggling case was being investigated, but the Wall Street Journal reported that Kingery had been detained in Arizona in June 2010 and then released, purportedly because officials wanted to use him as an informant or in a sting operation. The ATF refused to confirm that report. ATF spokesman Drew Wade said "we can't confirm or deny the existence of an ongoing criminal investigation." Mexico's Attorney General's Office said Kingery had been the subject of "a bilateral investigation" between Mexico, the U.S. government and the ATF. □

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Italian strike piles pressure on Government

COLLEEN BARRY
Associated Press

MILAN (AP) — A nationwide strike against austerity measures brought Italy to a near-halt on Tuesday, piling pressure on Silvio Berlusconi's government as it tries to convince nervous markets that it can produce and enforce a credible deficit-cutting plan.

Late Tuesday, the government got a sorely needed boost when Italy's main industrial lobby Confindustria voiced support for the latest version of the flip-flopping austerity plan, which among other things would increase the IVA sales tax to 21 percent from 20 percent.

Previously, Confindustria had publicly criticized the plan as failing to do anything to spur economic growth.

The government, meanwhile, said it would tie passage of the €45.5 billion (\$68 billion) tax and cut austerity plan to a vote of confidence, as Berlusconi seeks to enforce discipline in his often unruly coalition. The government said the "grave international context of the financial crisis" made the decision necessary.

If the government fails the confidence vote, it would fall; such a threat is designed to compel lawmakers to pass the plan, which has changed almost daily as Berlusconi seeks to placate his allies.

The strike by Italy's largest union disrupted air, land and sea transport, stalled manufacturing and cur-

tailed government services.

Susanna Camusso, head of the left-leaning CGIL union, said the current austerity proposal needs to be thrown out and substituted with fairer measures. Unions claim it fails to create jobs while putting too much burden on workers.

"We are striking against measures that are unjust. We are striking against measures that are irresponsible, and which put all of the burden on public sector workers," Camusso told demonstrators in Rome.

Camusso pledged to bring lawsuits and court cases against the current draft plan of austerity measures, which among other things want to make it easier to fire workers.

The European Commission, meanwhile, welcomed the

new measures.

"They confirm the determination of the Italian authorities to meet the agreed targets of deficit and debt reduction, while contributing to tackle the deep root-



People hold a banner reading "We don't pay your bill, change the menu" as they march through downtown Turin, Italy, Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011. A nationwide strike in Italy against austerity measures brought the country to a halt on Tuesday, piling pressure on Silvio Berlusconi's government as it tries to convince nervous markets that it can produce and enforce a credible deficit-cutting plan. The strike by Italy's largest union shut down air, land and sea transport, stalled manufacturing and curtailed government services.

(AP Photo/Daniele Badolato, Lapresse)

ed structural weaknesses of the Italian economy," it said in a statement.

The Commission called for swift adoption of the adjustment package in a spirit of national cohesion and

solidarity.

It's a delicate moment for Berlusconi's government, which is under intense international pressure to pass measures this month aimed at balancing the budget by 2013. Worries that it is backtracking on some of its pledges have seen investors push up the country's borrowing rates.

The Senate takes up the measures on Tuesday, with details still the subject of fierce political fighting.

The upper house is set to vote by the end of the week. The package then moves to the lower house in Parliament, with adoption expected by Sept. 15. Italy's president on Monday urged political leaders to come up with "more efficient measures" citing "alarming signs" that the financial crisis is worsening. □

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Knox trial: Doubt reigns as experts fight over DNA

ALESSANDRA RIZZO

Associated Press

PERUGIA, Italy (AP) — Questions mounted Tuesday over crucial DNA evidence linking Amanda Knox and her co-defendant to the murder of her British roommate, with forensic experts giving detailed and conflicting views in court over genetic science.

Knox felt "disoriented" after two days listening to the reports about DNA extraction and attribution, her lawyer said. A prosecution consultant and a lawyer suggested further testing on DNA evidence might be warranted, a step prosecutors might decide to push for as the appeals trial continues. Without a clear motive or convincing witnesses, much of the appeals outcome hinges on how the court views the DNA evidence.

"In the morning it goes one way, in the afternoon another. It's two schools of thoughts facing off on scientific theories," said Luciano Ghirga, a lawyer for Knox. "The issue becomes more and more important every day."

Knox and Raffaele Sollecito were convicted of sexually assaulting and killing Meredith Kercher in November 2007 in the apartment Knox and the 21-year-old Briton shared while studying in Perugia. Knox was sentenced to 26 years in prison; Sollecito to 25. Both deny wrongdoing and have appealed the December 2009 verdict.

In the original trial, prosecutors maintained that Knox's DNA was found on the handle of a kitchen knife believed to be the murder weapon, and that Kercher's DNA was found on the blade. They said Sollecito's DNA was on the clasp of Kercher's bra as part of a mixed trace that also included the victim's genetic profile. But a review of the DNA evidence ordered by the appeals court disputed those findings and criticized the forensic police who carried out the original investigation for shoddy work — setting off the current

battle. The court-appointed experts alleged glaring errors in evidence gathering, below-standard testing which they said raised doubts about the attribution of DNA traces, and possible contamination of the evidence.

Patrizia Stefanoni, the police expert who examined DNA traces in the aftermath of the 2007 killing, defended her job in testimony spread over two days and with the aid of over 100 slides. She rejected claims

off the floor at the crime scene 46 days after the killing. The independent review said that the "context ... was highly suggestive of ambient contamination." Stefanoni insisted that in that period "nothing from outside the victim's room was brought inside." She insisted that out of 133 specimens analyzed in the house of the murder — including 89 in Kercher's room — Sollecito's genetic profile was only found in a cigarette butt in an ashtray, mixed



Amanda Knox, foreground, is escorted by a police officer as she arrives for a hearing of her appeals case at the Perugia court, Italy, Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011. The police official who conducted the original investigation in the Amanda Knox case defended her standards Monday, after an independent review harshly criticized the evidence used to convict the American student of murdering her British roommate. Knox and her co-defendant and one-time boyfriend, Raffaele Sollecito, were convicted of sexually assaulting and killing Meredith Kercher in the apartment that Knox and the 21-year-old Briton shared while studying in Perugia. Knox was sentenced to 26 years in prison; Sollecito to 25. Both deny wrongdoing and have appealed the December 2009 verdict.

(AP Photo/Stefano Medici)

that she had tested and extracted profiles from insufficient or unreadable traces of DNA.

Stefanoni said the knife, found at Sollecito's house, was tested in a lab six days after the investigators had analyzed a trace of Kercher's DNA — excluding contamination. The bra clasp, however, was recovered

with Knox's.

"If Sollecito's DNA had somehow traveled from the butt to the clasp, then there would be Knox's DNA as well on the clasp," she said Tuesday.

Enter defense consultant Adriano Tagliabracci, who said he could rule out that Sollecito's DNA was in fact on the clasp. □

For Israel and West Bank, line defines lives



A man waves a Palestinian flag on a rooftop as people march below in a parade to observe Jerusalem Day, which commemorates the reunification of Jerusalem and the establishment of Israeli control over the Old City, in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood of East Jerusalem, June 1, 2011. While Israel has physically erased much of the Green Line, the pre-1967 boundary with the West Bank, it has carefully preserved the line in legal and administrative terms, and it defines lives on both sides.

(Rina Castelnuovo/The New York Times)

ISABEL KERSHNER

© 2011 New York Times

BARTAA, West Bank — For decades Israel has tried to erase from public consciousness the Green Line, the pre-1967 boundary with the West Bank at the heart of stalled negotiations for a Palestinian state. Israel has built on either side of the Green Line and deleted it from textbooks and weather maps. Israeli drivers plying the main Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway crisscross the unmarked line at the Latrun Interchange every second of the day, slicing through half a mile of West Bank territory and several more miles of no man's land, oblivious to the area's fraught history. In Jerusalem, where Israel annexed the eastern part of the city and its holy sites after the 1967 war, a new light rail system traverses a patchwork of Jewish and Palestinian neighborhoods, gliding blithely across the invisible boundaries.

Yet a recent journey along the line, from the northernmost Jalama checkpoint to the tiny villages of Al Ghwein and Sansana in the arid hills of the south, shows that despite attempts to blur it physically, Israel has carefully preserved the line in legal and administrative terms, and it defines lives on both sides. The Obama administration has called for negotiations for a Palestinian state with borders based on the 1967

boundaries, with mutually agreed land swaps. In the absence of talks, the Palestinian leadership plans to seek recognition of statehood within the 1967 borders at the United Nations this month. Israel rejects the Green Line as indefensible. Successive Israeli governments established Jewish settlements on the West Bank hilltops, encouraged by Israeli religious nationalists who claim the area as part of their biblical birthright. For Palestinian officials emboldened by the rise of Palestinian nationalism, what began as a temporary cease-fire line has become holy, though many people still harbor claims to the land on the Israeli side and reject any partition of the pre-1948 British Mandate of Palestine. "If the Israelis do not recognize this line," said Nazmi al-Jubeh, a Palestinian historian and a former negotiator, "it means that they do not recognize the territory beyond it as occupied." Driving the Green Line is like weaving a path between parallel universes, along a seam that is both present and absent, and that fuses and divides.

INVISIBLE WALL

The Green Line was delineated as Israeli and Jordanian officers negotiated an armistice in the months after the 1948 Arab-Israeli war; it was named for the green marker with which it was drawn. □



Retired MLB Player heads to Venezuela

Aruba pitcher Calvin Maduro chosen as Pro Pitching Coach



CARACAS - Don Baylor has already decided who will be the pitching coach Margarita Braves for the season 2011/12. It will be Aruban Calvin Maduro, who between 1996 and 2005 was a recurring imported baseball pitcher in Venezuela. The former right-hander has been working as scout for the Baltimore Orioles pitching and coordinator of the minor league system of the franchise. Maduro first came to Venezuela as reinforcement was in the 1996/97 season with the Eagles and the last uniform he wore in LVBP Lara was in 2004/05. The Caribbean pitcher worked for five calendars in the majors with the Philadelphia Phillies and the Orioles. And until 2006 was active in Baltimore. Maduro, 37, has little coaching experience, but has the confidence of Baylor strategist, who requested it.

The way the former Orioles right-hander has been keeping busy, he's hardly had time to reflect on the fact that he hasn't thrown a pitch in anger since 2006, when he went 1-5 and worked mostly in relief for the O's Double-A affiliate in Bowie.

"That sounded old," Mad-

uro chuckled when asked if he felt like he belonged signing postcards and posing for photos as part of the Orioles Alumni autograph series after a recent Thursday afternoon game at Camden Yards. "I'm 37 now, but it's still good in a way. You're still part of the Orioles, so it's nice to hear that."

Maduro and other former Birds can be found at the MASN tent on Mondays and Thursdays, when they sign autographs and chat with fans for an hour beginning 90 minutes before game time.

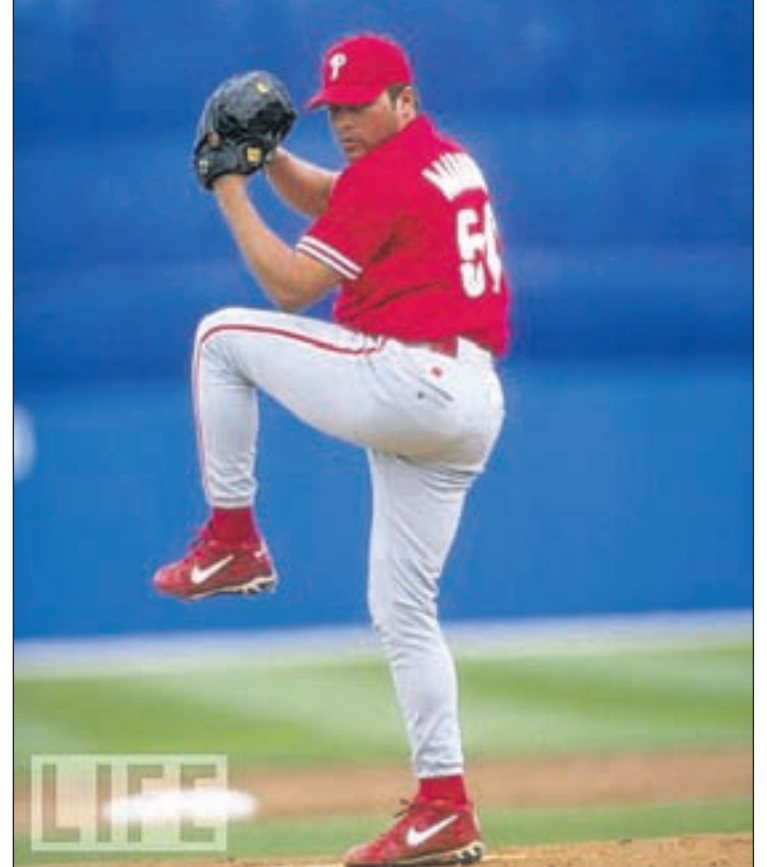
Participants are not announced in advance, but include players from each decade of the team's existence in Baltimore on a rotating basis. A recent addition to the alumni rotation, Maduro makes time for such appearances between multiple roles for the Orioles, for whom he played from 2000-2002 after resigning with his original organization as a free agent. The native of Santa Cruz, Aruba, came up through the O's farm system after signing as an amateur free agent in 1991 and was sent to the Philadelphia Phillies in September 1996 to com-

plete a stretch-run trade that saw the Orioles acquire third baseman Todd Zile and outfielder Pete Incaviglia from Philly.

In 2005, Maduro was named as pitching coach for short-season Single-A Aberdeen. He spent three seasons with the IronBirds, working with young O's hurlers, and then two more campaigns in the same role for the Gulf Coast League Orioles. Taking advantage of Maduro's knowledge of the Caribbean baseball hotbeds, he was hired as an international scout for the club in 2010, part of the Orioles' efforts to beef up their around-the-world efforts to mine the best diamond talent.

He's part of David Stockstill's staff, and also is responsible for scouting Europe.

Despite his new scouting role, Maduro continues to be a presence around the organization's minor league affiliates, especially those close to his home in Millersville, Md. He spent time in uniform at the beginning of the season at Camden Yards, too, as manager Buck Showalter took advantage of his longstanding connection with some of the O's up-and-coming



pitchers.

"I do international scouting and I go help wherever they need me with pitching," explained Maduro, who was 7-11 with a 5.39 ERA in 49 games, including 24 starts, as an Oriole. "I love it. It gives me time to be in uniform and at the same time, I can be scouting and looking for the players (of the future). I had a chance to be with Buck (Showalter) the first month at the big league level and all around, it's all good. This year has been the best one so far."

Baltimore, Frederick, Sarasota, the Dominican Republic - Maduro always seems to be on the move, which is part of his still relatively new job description. "I get to sign the player at 15 to 16 years old and see how he progresses in the system and becomes a major league player later," Maduro said. "That's the best part."

Does his track record as a former major leaguer give

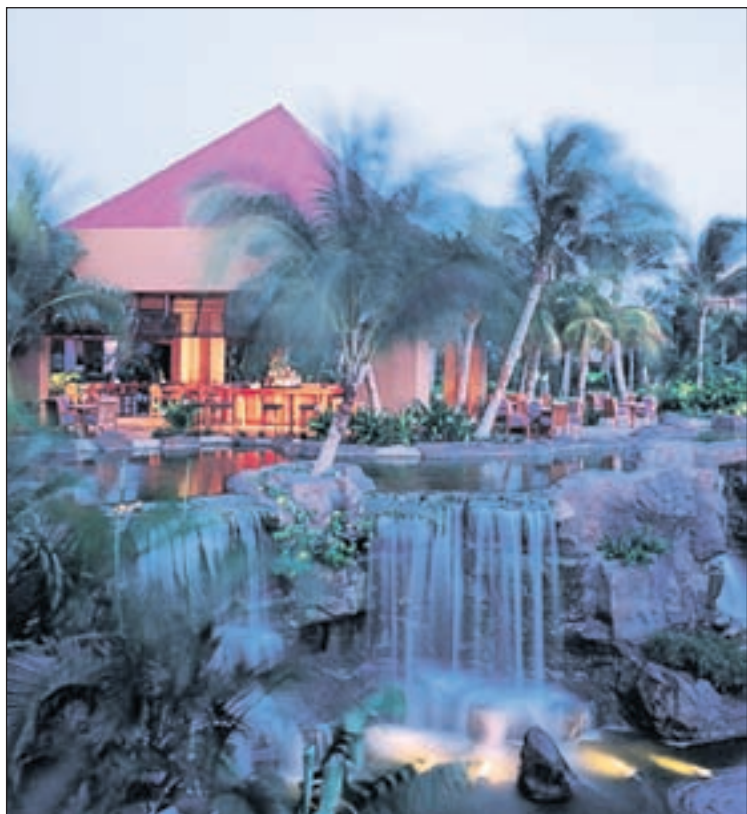
him more credibility with the teenagers he's focusing on? "If you know baseball, you know baseball," he said.

"You don't have play in the big leagues to know baseball."

Naturally, Maduro has a special interest in his homeland, a small island that has long been a focal point of the Orioles' Latin American efforts, dating to the days that longtime O's scout Carlos Bernhardt was one of the few people paying attention to the nation's burgeoning baseball stars. Guys like Maduro, Eugene Kingsale and Sidney Ponson are among the organization's finds there.

"I get calls from international directors from the other teams," Maduro said. "They call me for references on guys I know who can help them out in the future. That's a compliment to the people over there. That means that Aruba baseball is getting big. Curacao, too." □

The Grande Dame refresh nears conclusion



PALM BEACH - The award-winning Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa is pleased to announce that its overall property renovation is set for completion in the middle of October 2011, with the Aruba Tower refresh as the final phase of the transformation.

The Aruba Tower, the resort's main building, remains the home of the Plaza Club, which offers extra, personalized service to guests staying in club-level accommodations on the top two floors of the tower. The rooms of the Bonaire and Curacao Towers were com-

pletely refreshed earlier this year.

Guests will experience a new sense of arrival, with updated furnishings and the relocation of the reception area further into the open-air lobby. Now, guests can experience magnificent views of the ocean, beach, and pool the moment they arrive.

Guests staying throughout the resort will enjoy newly refreshed hallways featuring murals, accented ceilings, and upgraded carpeting.

New room furnishings and amenities include I-Home clock radios, 42-inch plasma TVs, Simmons Luxury Plush EverNu mattresses, and a new bedding and linen standard that features a luxury duvet cover, contemporary accents, and 300-count 2x2 basket-weave sheets and pillowcases.

Every room has been enhanced with computerized climate-control systems with dehumidifiers for ultimate comfort and a stay-

dry environment.

Additionally, all of the resort's windows and doors have been replaced by double-pane "airport quality" glass for a soundproof experience. For guests' additional comfort, each room also includes upgraded carpeting, a credenza, headboard wall design, and a bench at the foot of the bed.

Fine dining is a hallmark at the Radisson, and its AAA Four Diamond restaurant, Sunset Grille, has also been refurbished with new furnishings, kitchen equipment, glassware, and china. Additionally, the interior sports a new color scheme and has been refreshed in order to maximize indoor and outdoor seating.

Mira Solo Martini Bar has undergone a refresh with soft-goods enhancements and redesigned space that will maximize guests' waterfront experience.

In addition to a resort-wide room renovation, the Aruba Tower Meeting Space has also been given a full face-

lift. The casino at the resort is next on the renovation list; it will include state-of-the-art gaming equipment, with a full back-of-the-house package designed for an enhanced loyalty program. Landscaping throughout the resort has been refreshed with new plantings and manicuring to accentuate the tropical environment for which the Grand Dame is famous.

The resort has also recently expanded its interactive aviary program with additional tropical birds.

Guests can now visit nine birds on property, including four Macaws with the oldest celebrating its 34th birthday, a Blue & Gold Macaw, a Sulfur-Crested Cockatoo, two African Grey Parrots, a Cuban Amazon Parrot, and a Brazilian Toucan.

Fully renovated yet still offering its award-winning service, the AAA Four Diamond Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa is now better than ever and eager to welcome guests to its 15-acre slice of paradise. □

Aruhiba, The 1 and Only Homemade Aruban Cigar



ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is



specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open from Monday to Saturday from 9am till

8:30pm. And open on Sunday from 9am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores.

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Served in bed by renowned European Chef Erwin Maylene wins romantic dinner-for-two with SMS

EAGLE BEACH – This past week, Cool FM listener Maylene was listening to DJ Rico Rijk's morning radio program when he asked listeners to be the first to text in the name of the restaurant affiliated with the Screaming Eagle Restaurant-Lounge. Mylene, who lives with her husband and children in Savaneta, quickly sent an SMS with the correct answer the Flying Fishbone. She instantly won a romantic dinner-for-two with bedside service from Chef Erwin Hüsken's of the Screaming Eagle.

Head Chef Erwin likes to introduce a new special each Friday consisting of some of the most popular seasonal specials from North Europe. They are created with the freshest, finest ingredients and products at the time. "This week I used the porcini mushroom as fresh seasonal ingredient for a delicious risotto serving. In addition, you will find again a true classic amongst this week's specials, 'braised lamb shank'; the meat so soft it almost falls of the bone by itself and delectable 'pan seared scallops' on sun dried tomato risotto, broc-



Maylene and her husband are pictured enjoying romantic dinner-for-two with bedside service from Chef Erwin Hüsken's of the Screaming Eagle.

coli and maitaise sauce." Other specials this week include Appetizers: Carpaccio of veal with Parma ham, eggplant caviar, rucola salad and bell pepper oil; Salad of deep fried plaice with herb scrambled egg, toasted garlic bread and bacon dressing; Farmers poultry "terrine" served with rosemary brioche and truffle mayonnaise; and Ripe plantain-corn soup. Other special Main Courses: Pan seared red bream on "brandade" of eel, stewed leek and creamy pesto sauce; Veal sweetbread on risotto of fresh porcini, caramelized beet and pine nut

sauce. Dinner is never over at the Screaming Eagle without Dessert. This week's special is a white chocolate-hazelnut parfait with apricot-brandy compote (boeren meisjes) Screaming Eagle perfectly matches South Beach lounge décor with ultrachic French fusion cuisine complemented by a well-stocked wine cellar and an equally impressive bar list of innovative cocktails from around the globe. While also paying tribute to the classics, the menu delivers unusual food combinations with never-before



Chef's Special: Delectable 'pan seared scallops' on sun dried tomato risotto, broccoli drizzled in maitaise sauce.

pairings, infusing nightly dinner rituals with pleasant elements of surprise. For guests looking to amp up the romance for the evening, the Screaming Eagle proudly offers dinner in bed. They have entirely devoted one sec-

tion of the house to canopy beds strewn with white pillows, bathed in soft romantic lighting, and draped with white chiffon. Couples can kick off their shoes and cuddle up while enjoying sumptuous dishes laid out on wooden bed trays. □

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Tropic Cas celebrates highest point with spantenbier

EAGLE – Mary Perez & Esther Erasmus welcomed friends and well-wishers to the recent Spantenbier celebration of their store extension, in Eagle. The new area now under construction scheduled to open at the beginning of October is adjoining to their furniture store and will offer soft goods and bedroom sets designed to complement the current assortment of quality furniture. Working with their local clients and helping decorate condos and homes for island visitors, Mary & Esther identified the need for soft goods, artwork, accents, as well as outdoor furniture. Confident in the island's economic recovery, the sisters then decided to expand their showroom, doubling the floor space footage, and offering novel and fresh collections, like never before in Aruba. Best of all the entrepreneurial sisters had managed to secure an agreement with Ethan Allen, a North American furniture chain with almost 300 stores across the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, which has been furnishing stylish homes since 1932. Ethan Allen will be available in the new Tropic Cas in many signature styles from classic, elegant, modern and adventurous to romantic and vintage. Visit their beautiful store on Schotlandstraat, Eagle, and prepare to be surprised in October when they open the extension. Pictured here the Spantenbier celebration, pouring beer on the roof rafters, as the construction reaches the highest point! ☐



MooMba with terrific Tsunami for End of Summer Bikini Beach Bash



PALM BEACH - A hot, hot party at MooMba Beach signaled the end of the holiday period for many visitors and locals. Aptly called End of Summer Bikini Beach Bash, it was held on Sunday, September 4th. With its bikini and board short dress code it was an invitation to go wild, dance in the sand and have loads of fun. The band Tsunami was in top form, playing its rousing salsa music to the delight of the barely clad crowd on a terrific stage, built by Purple Entertainment. The party atmosphere went up a notch or two or more when the entire MooMba bar staff disrobed and displayed their coolest bikinis and board shorts to applause, whistles and applause. Wow! At 10 pm Tsunami was replaced by MooMba's house DJ Diablo and the salsa beat changed into different beats until 1 am. It was the perfect end of a terrific summer. ☐



SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

Cliff Hanger

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Cliff Lee threw a five-hitter for his sixth shutout of the season, helping the National League East-leading Philadelphia Phillies beat the second-place Atlanta Braves 9-0 on Monday.



Philadelphia Phillies starting pitcher Cliff Lee throwing during the first inning of a baseball game with the Atlanta Braves, Monday, Sept. 5, 2011, in Philadelphia. (AP Photo/Tom Mihalek)

Lee (16-7) struck out six, walked none and needed only 100 pitches to finish off the Braves after falling one out shy of a shutout in his previous start at Cincinnati. The left-hander has won his last seven starts, and hasn't allowed a run in five of those games. The Phillies increased their lead to 8 1/2 games over Atlanta and reduced their magic number for clinching their fifth straight NL East title to 16 with 25 games remaining. Hunter Pence drove in three runs, Ryan Howard hit a solo homer and Shane Victorino and Carlos Ruiz had two-run singles for Philadelphia.

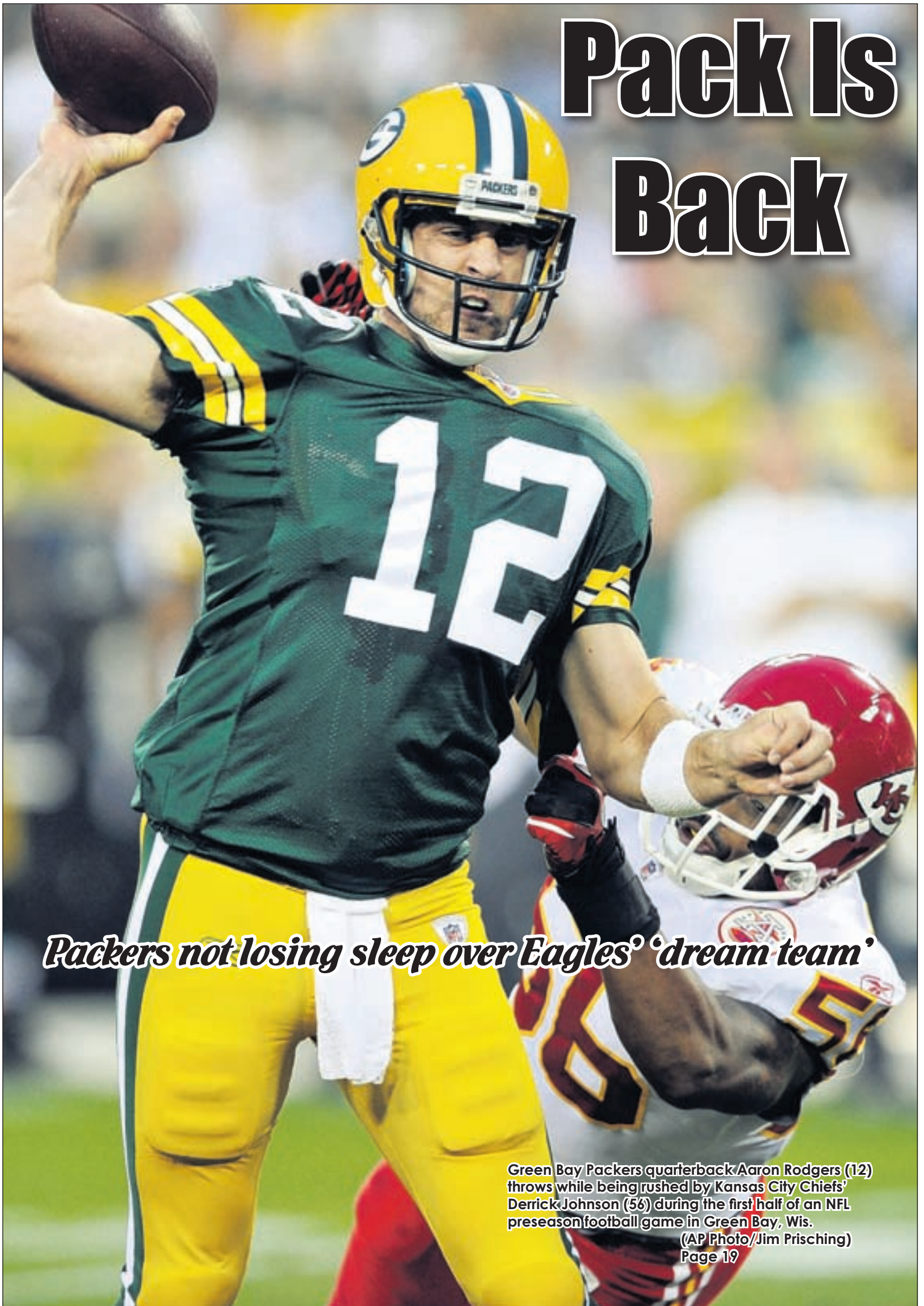
***Brewers 4, Cardinals 1**

At St. Louis, Randy Wolf allowed one run over eight innings, and Ryan Braun and Nyjer Morgan homered to lead Milwaukee over St. Louis.

The Brewers won their fourth straight to move 10 1/2 games ahead of St. Louis in the National League Central, equaling their largest lead of the season.

Continued on Page 20

Pack Is Back



Packers not losing sleep over Eagles' 'dream team'

Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers (12) throws while being rushed by Kansas City Chiefs' Derrick Johnson (56) during the first half of an NFL preseason football game in Green Bay, Wis.

(AP Photo/Jim Prisching)

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Seb Coe calls Bolt 'Muhammad Ali' of athletics

LONDON (AP) — Calling Usain Bolt "the Muhammad Ali of athletics," Sebastian Coe predicts the Jamaican sprinter will steal the show again at next year's London Olympics.

Coe, the former middle-distance running great, heads the organizing committee of the 2012 Games. He was in Daegu, South Korea, for the world championships where Bolt won the 200 meters and anchored Jamaica to a world record in the 4x100 relay.

"It was the return of Beatlemania," Coe said of the crowd reaction to Bolt in Daegu. "The Muhammad Ali of athletics is on his way to an Olympic Stadium near you."

"There really is an Ali-like aura about this guy that is now transcending all sports."

Bolt false-started and was disqualified in the 100 at the worlds but ran a blistering 19.40 seconds to win the 200 and helped Jamaica clock a world record of 37.04 seconds in the relay.



Jamaica's Usain Bolt celebrates with gold medal after winning the gold in the Men's 4x100m relay final at the World Athletics Championships in Daegu, South Korea, Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011.

Associated Press

Bolt will be defending his 100 and 200 meter Olympic titles in London next year.

"All things being equal, he'll be the iconic figure of our Games," Coe wrote in his column in The Daily Telegraph. "I've spoken to him and he's told me how he wants to blow people's minds in London, to make yet another extraordinary impact that will cement the status of legend that he wants for himself."

"London is consuming him," Coe added. "I know he's going to base himself in England for quite a while before the Games."

Coe, who is also a vice

president of the International Association of Athletics Federations, noted that Bolt could become the first man to successfully defend both the 100 and 200 Olympic titles.

The Jamaican could also challenge his world marks of 9.58 seconds in the 100 and 19.19 in the 200, both set at the 2009 worlds in Berlin.

"I know we're going to have a super-fast track, technology at its best, and, with a bit of luck with the weather, he will clearly be capable of a renewed assault on both his world records," Coe said. □

Haedo takes advantage of confusion for Vuelta win



Argentine cyclist Juan Jose Haedo, right, celebrates after winning the 16th stage of the Spanish Vuelta cycling race that finished in Haro, northern Spain, Tuesday Sept. 6, 2011.

Associated Press

HARO, Spain (AP) — Juan Jose Haedo took advantage of a chaotic finish to win the 16th stage of the Spanish Vuelta on Tuesday after some of his rivals went the wrong way around a roundabout.

Daniele Bennati was leading the sprint finish before the Italian wrongly went right at the roundabout just before the close, taking the leading riders with him and allowing Haedo to move to

the left and dash in alone over the finish line.

Juanjo Cobo increased his overall lead going into the final week of racing.

Haedo is the first Argentine to win a stage at any of the three classics — including the Tour de France and Giro d'Italia — after taking the 203-kilometer leg in 4 hours, 41 minutes, 56 seconds. "I managed to get by cleanly to the left and that was it. You always need some luck

and today I got it," said the Saxo Bank-Sunguard rider after a race which was also marked by a heavy crash with under 15 kilometers to ride. Bennati managed to recover for third behind fellow Italian Alessandro Petacchi, while Vicente Reynes of Spain and Australian cyclist Leigh Howard completed the top five.

Cobo, meanwhile, finished two seconds behind Haedo in 10th while closest challenger Christopher Froome was four seconds behind in 13th. British teammate Bradley Wiggins trailed by seven seconds in 22nd.

Cobo, who took over the leader's red jersey by winning the 15th stage on the mountain pass of Alto De L'Angliru, leads Sky pair Froome and Wiggins by 22 and 51 seconds, respectively. Rafal Majka of Saxo Bank-Sunguard was the worst affected by the crash in the heart of Spain's La Rioja wine country and the Polish rider eventually finished last, over 18 minutes behind Haedo. □

Spain, Italy qualify for Euro 2012



Spain's Francesc Fabregas, center, and Fernando Llorente fight for the ball in front Marco Ritzberger, right and Michele Polverino, left, during their Euro 2012 qualifying soccer match at Las Gaunas stadium in Logrono, northern Spain, Tuesday Sept. 6, 2011.

(AP Photo/Israel Lopez)

STEVE DOUGLAS

AP Sports Writer

LONDON (AP) — Spain and Italy sealed their places at Euro 2012 with two qualifying games to spare on Tuesday while England moved closer to next year's finals after beating Wales in a game at Wembley overshadowed by the death of a Wales fan.

David Villa and Alvaro Negredo scored twice as defending champion Spain thrashed Liechtenstein 6-0 to secure top spot in Group I, and substitute Giampaolo Pazzini's 85th-minute strike earned the Italians a narrow win in Florence that clinched them first place in Group C.

The 2010 and 2006 world champions join already-qualified Germany and the two co-hosts in the finals.

The Netherlands maintained its perfect record in Group E with a 2-0 victory in Finland but still need a point to guarantee first place, like England, which beat Wales 1-0 in Group G through Manchester United winger Ashley Young's goal.

However, England's victory was marred after London police said a Wales fan had died after an assault was reported outside the stadium before the game. Police said the man, who they believe is in his 40s, sustained head injuries and was taken to hospital where he was pronounced dead at 8:50 p.m. (1950 GMT). □



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Packers not losing sleep over Eagles' 'dream team'

NEW YORK (AP) — The Philadelphia Eagles' offseason overhaul hasn't gone unnoticed in Green Bay. Neither has the hype that's come with it.

While the reigning Super Bowl champion Packers are taking the Eagles seriously, they've been mildly amused at what they see as a rush to crown new conference favorites before the season. Given the chance, Green Bay is confident it will bring the "dream team" back to reality.

"On paper, I guess they're the 'dream team,'" Packers linebacker Desmond Bishop said. "You've definitely got to go out on the field and make it happen. So we'll see."

The Eagles positioned themselves as the Packers' top challenger in the NFC after adding a wealth of top-line talent, including cornerbacks Nnamdi Asomugha and Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie. Not to mention former Packers defensive lineman Cullen Jenkins. "We're a confident bunch," Packers wide receiver James Jones said. "We truly don't pay attention to who everybody gets, we truly don't care who everybody gets. We believe when we step on that field we're going to win the game, no matter who it is. If we happen to run into them, we'll be ready."

The Eagles aren't the Packers' only serious challengers in the NFC.

The Chicago Bears beat the Packers for the NFC North division title last year, then lost to their rivals in the NFC title game at Soldier Field. But the Bears could be poised to take a step backward unless Jay Cutler's protection improves significantly. With a fierce defensive line, the Detroit Lions could become the Packers' closest pursuers in the division — provided quarterback Matthew Stafford can stay healthy. The conference's most competitive division may be the NFC South. The Atlanta Falcons drafted wide receiver Julio Jones, although it remains to be seen if they can to fix a defense that Packers passer Aaron Rodgers carved up in the playoffs. The New Orleans Saints are trying to regain their Super Bowl-winning form and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers appear to be on the rise.

Then there's the NFC West, a division there for the taking for any team that can make even a modest improvement. The West was an afterthought last season, and there aren't many reasons between St. Louis, Seattle, Arizona and San Francisco to think that will change much in the short term.

A year ago, the Pittsburgh Steelers were in flux, with their star quarterback about to sit out a four-game suspension.

Ben Roethlisberger returned after Pittsburgh went 3-1, leading the team to its third AFC championship in six seasons. Now the bitter taste of a Super Bowl loss to Green Bay and a controversy-filled offseason

this is the most talented New York Jets team he has had since becoming the coach. He guarantees — again — this is the year the Jets bring home their first Lombardi Trophy since the days of Joe Namath.

sion for eight of the last 10 years. And Tom Brady — the NFL's MVP after 36 touchdowns and just four interceptions — has a dangerous new target in Chad Ochocinco.

"The Jets, well we've heard that for a few years," Brady said. "You don't ever hear us talking too much about that." While Jets vs. Patriots should make for an intense matchup in the AFC East, watch for the Baltimore Ravens to ramp up the volume — and violent hits — with the Steelers in the AFC North. Ray Lewis is still the fiery leader of an always-dominant Ravens defense, and quarterback Joe Flacco has improved in each of his first three seasons.

Peyton Manning's neck, even more than his arm, will have a big impact not only on the AFC South, but the entire conference.

It's strange to be concentrating on an injury for the game's most durable quarterback, but the Indianapolis Colts' four-time MVP had offseason surgery and he's doubtful for Sunday's game in Houston. If he's unable to start for the first time in his career, that could give Matt Schaub and the Texans a head start in the division.

The AFC West could be a free-for-all, with Philip Rivers and the San Diego Chargers' quick-strike offense looking to get back to the playoffs after a year away. □



Kansas City Chiefs' Jovan Belcher (59) leaps over Green Bay Packers' Dimitri Nance as he applies pressure to quarterback Matt Flynn (10) during the second half of an NFL preseason football game in Green Bay, Wis.

(AP Photo/Jim Prisching)

have the Steelers itching to defend their AFC title. After keeping the core of their roster together, they're loaded to make another run. But so are plenty of other AFC teams.

Just ask Rex Ryan, who says

"Everything that I've said in the past," Ryan said, "is still in play."

Bill Belichick's New England Patriots might have something to say about that. After all, they've been the kings of the AFC East divi-

Lee tosses another gem, shuts out Braves

Continued from Front

Wolf (12-9) gave up four hits, struck out five and walked two as he improved to 6-1 with a 3.11 ERA in his last eight starts. The left-hander allowed two hits over his final six innings, and had two infield singles. John Axford pitched a perfect ninth to record his 41th save in 43 chances. *Diamondbacks 10, Rockies 7 At Denver, Geoff Blum homered and Wade Miley tossed seven strong innings as Arizona beat Colorado. Justin Upton homered and Paul Goldschmidt had three RBIs for Arizona, which has won three straight and 12 of 13. Blum had three hits and three RBIs. The Diamondbacks held a seven-game over San Francisco in the NL West. Dexter Fowler homered from both sides of the plate, and Mark Ellis and Troy Tulowitzki also connected for Colorado. Arizona scored five runs in the sixth to break open a close game.

*Nationals 7, Dodgers

At Washington, Michael Morse hit two of Washing-



Philadelphia Phillies starting pitcher Cliff Lee throwing during the ninth inning of a baseball game with the Atlanta Braves, Monday, Sept. 5, 2011, in Philadelphia. The Phillies won 9-0, Lee won his seventh straight start.

Associated Press

ton's four home runs and John Lannan pitched into the sixth inning to break a four-start losing streak in a win over Los Angeles. Morse, Ian Desmond and Jayson Werth all went deep in the first inning as Washington grabbed a 4-1 lead. The Nationals had dropped 10 of 12, while the Dodgers came in winners of 11 of 13. All four homers — Morse hit No. 26 in the sixth inning — came against Hiroki Kuroda (11-15), who entered with a career-high four-game winning streak. The right-hander had a season-high nine strikeouts, but gave up five runs and eight hits in six innings. Lannan (9-11) allowed one run and five hits in 5 1-3 innings.

*Pirates 3, Astros 1

At Pittsburgh, Ryan Doumit had three hits as Pittsburgh's James McDonald pitched into the eighth inning for the first time this season. Josh Harrison added two hits and Derrek Lee hit his 16th homer as the Pirates won for the third time in four games. It was Lee's fourth homer since he was acquired in a trade with Baltimore on July 30. □

Gordon holds on at Atlanta for 85th career win

PAUL NEWBERRY

AP Sports Writer

HAMPTON, Georgia (AP)

— With his car sliding all over the track, Jeff Gordon held off teammate Jimmie Johnson over a thrilling last 10 laps Tuesday to win the rain-delayed NASCAR race at Atlanta Motor Speedway.

Gordon won for the third time this season and 85th time in his career, breaking a tie with Bobby Allison and Darrell Waltrip for third on the career list.

Richard Petty (200) and David Pearson (105) are the only drivers in Cup history with more victories than Gordon.

"I totally forgot about that," said Gordon, who received a special plaque from NASCAR during the victory ceremony in front of the main grandstand. "Eighty-five, wow! That is un-un-believable. With the kind of day we had, the kind of year

we're having, I feel rejuvenated."

He definitely earned this win, fending off the defending five-time champion. Johnson put his Chevrolet in front of Gordon's No. 24 car a couple of times but couldn't hold on through the corners.

At the end, with both drivers racing as hard as they could on fading tires, their cars came close to getting sideways several times. Johnson made one last run for the lead on the final lap, but had to back off to keep from putting his car in the wall.

Gordon pulled away to win by 0.598 seconds.

"I'm so glad I grew up racing on dirt," Johnson said. "I could have spun out four or five times at the end."

The AdvoCare 500 was only the second Cup race since 1978 to be run on a Tuesday. It was originally scheduled for Sunday night, but

rain from the remnants of Tropical Storm Lee forced a two-day postponement.

Gordon, a four-time champion, had already locked up a spot in the Chase for the championship, but this performance stamped him as a prime contender to end Johnson's unprecedented title run.

Then again, Johnson looks pretty strong, too. He moved past Kyle Busch to take the top spot in the season standings, leaving little doubt that he's still the one everyone's chasing.

"The reality is we have a lot to be proud of," said Johnson, who has only one victory this season but always seems to run near the front. "We know we have a very good chance of winning the championship."

Tony Stewart was feeling a lot better about his chances after making up more than 8 seconds on the leaders in the final laps to finish third. □



In this image provided by HPP Images, driver Jeff Gordon (24) crosses the finish line to win the NASCAR Sprint Cup AdvoCare 500 auto race, Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011, at the Atlanta Motor Speedway, in Hampton, Ga.

(AP Photo/HPP Images, Alan Marler)



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LSU moves to No. 2, Auburn drops out of AP Top 25

By **RALPH D. RUSSO**

AP College Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Winning the biggest game of college football's opening weekend boosted LSU to No. 2 in The Associated Press Top 25.

No. 1 Oklahoma held on to the top spot in the first regular-season rankings, while the Tigers used their 40-27 victory against Oregon to jump rival Alabama, which slipped to No. 3.

"It's way too early to feel like we have accomplished anything," LSU coach Les Miles said. "Our guys understand the need to improve each game."

The Sooners received 32 of 60 first-place votes and 1,448 points. LSU received 17 first-place votes and 1,415 points.

Alabama had nine first-place votes, and two vot-

ers had No. 4 Boise State top-ranked after the Broncos' impressive 35-21 win against Georgia. Florida State moved up to No. 5.

Oregon dropped nine spots to No. 13 and defending national champion Auburn, which started the season at No. 23, fell out of the Top 25 after needing a late rally to beat Utah State 42-38 at home.

The Tigers became just the second defending national champions since the pre-season poll started in 1950 to fall out of the rankings after the first week of the season in the first regular-season poll — though the circumstances were far different the first time it happened.

Alabama, the 1964 AP champion, started the '65 season ranked No. 5. The Crimson Tide lost 18-17 to

Georgia to open the season and dropped out, but The Associated Press only ranked 10 teams that season. Alabama eventually returned to the Top 10 and won another national title.



LSU quarterback Jarrett Lee (12) walks off the field after his team beat Oregon 40-26 winning the Cowboys Classic NCAA college football game, Saturday, Sept. 3, 2011, in Arlington, Texas.

APOLL

The 1961 Minnesota team is the only defending champion to be unranked in the

preseason poll. Moving into this week's rankings were No. 20 Baylor, which beat TCU 50-48, and No. 22 South Florida, 23-20 winners at Notre Dame.

"When you look at it, the

third-ranked Alabama. It's the only game this week matching ranked teams. TCU dropped 11 spots to No. 25.

Notre Dame and Georgia tumbled out of the Top 25 after losses. Like Auburn, Southern California, which opened the season ranked 25th, fell out of the rankings after a victory. USC squeaked by Minnesota 19-17.

The rest of the top 10 had No. 6 Stanford, followed by Texas A&M, Wisconsin, Oklahoma State and Nebraska. No. 11 is Virginia Tech, followed by South Carolina, Oregon, Arkansas and Ohio State.

No. 16 Mississippi State and No. 18 Florida give the Southeastern Conference six ranked teams this week, matching the Big 12 for the most. No. 21 Missouri, joins Oklahoma, Texas A&M, Oklahoma State, Baylor and Texas.

The Big Ten has five ranked teams, with No. 17 Michigan State joining Wisconsin, Nebraska, Penn State and Ohio State.

No. 19 West Virginia and USF give the Big East two teams in the Top 25. The Atlantic Coast Conference (Florida State and Virginia Tech), the Pac-12 (Stanford and Oregon) and the Mountain West (Boise State and TCU) also have two ranked teams. □

Rain washes out full day at US Open

NEW YORK (AP) — Rain washed out all of Tuesday's schedule at the U.S. Open, postponing matches involving defending champion Rafael Nadal, No. 4-ranked Andy Murray and 2010 women's runner-up Vera Zvonareva.

The three American men left in the tournament: Andy Roddick, John Isner and Donald Young, were also due to play. It was the first time play had been delayed by rain at this year's U.S. Open.

Steady showers that began overnight carried into the morning, first delaying what was supposed to be an 11 a.m. start, local time.

About 2½ hours later, the U.S. Tennis Association announced that the day and night sessions were being called off, issuing a state-



A man with an umbrella arrives for the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011. Rain is expected throughout the metropolitan area.

Associated Press

ment that said: "The latest forecast indicates worsening conditions with no projected breaks in the rain

through the remainder of the day and into the night." A total of 54 matches — including four in the fourth round of men's singles and two in the quarterfinals of women's singles, along with doubles and juniors action — were postponed at least until Wednesday, when the forecast predicts more rain.

There also is a chance of rain Thursday and Friday, which could throw the schedule into disarray. The two-week U.S. Open began Aug. 29, and is scheduled to end Sunday. Each of the past three years, though, rain pushed the men's final back a day until Monday. The men's matches originally set for Tuesday were No. 2 Nadal against unseeded Gilles Muller of Luxembourg. □

one that I'm most concerned about is the last one," Bulls coach Skip Holtz said. "After the end of the year we'll talk about the rankings and all that because that's the only time it really matters. So what we've got to do right now is just focus on what we've got to do on a day-to-day basis."

Also ranked for the first time this season were No. 23 Penn State and No. 24 Texas. The Longhorns started the season unranked for the first time since 1998.

Penn State moves into the rankings ahead of Saturday's home game against

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Cholesterol, the Good and the Bad

In the past they would kill the messenger who delivered news that king did not want to hear. Tough job, fortunately, this doesn't happen today. Or does it? With the declaration of helping patients, doctors try to eliminate your body signs (messages) with drugs. When consulting an allopathic doctor the first thing investigated is to see if you have a disease. If not, they may test your blood and identify values that they think will cause a disease. With higher than normal cholesterol numbers, cholesterol lowering drugs are frequently prescribed. Is this the best thing to do? Could it be that the remedy may be worse than the disease?

Cholesterol lowering drugs, known as statins are proving to be killers. Documents indicate some senior executives of German pharmaceutical maker Bayer, knew its anti-cholesterol drug Baycol was causing illness and death long before pulling it off the market. It produces a side effect called rhabdomyolysis which causes severe pain and muscle weakness. Serious cases can shut down the kidneys and cause paralysis or death. During other drug studies, test patients have committed suicide. In fact, suicide is a stated possible risk from taking cholesterol lowering medicine. Why? Lipopro-

teins, which are attached to cholesterol, provide a means by which toxins including, heavy metals, solvent toxins, pesticides, and petro-chemicals can be removed from your brain and nerves. As cholesterol falls, less lipoproteins are available lowering your body's ability to remove these poisons.

For natural physicians, cholesterol is not bad. Hydroxy sterols are found in both animal and plant life. Cholesterol, a complicated form of alcohol is the main sterol of higher life forms. With the exception of brain and red blood cells, all cells in your body are capable of synthesizing or producing cholesterol. Cholesterol provides strength for cell walls; a way to use other sterols and every day, cholesterol is converted into bile acid, which helps protect from and dissolve gall stones.

In your blood stream cholesterol contains lipoproteins. These proteins carry antioxidants such as vitamin E, beta carotene, and CoQ10 that help protect you from cancer. When cholesterol is naturally low or forced low with drugs, cancer risks rises because protection is reduced.

When a clinical nutritionist sees a high test value for cholesterol we look to see what caused your body to increase cholesterol

to help protect your brain and nerves. If fat-soluble poisons are present, changing what you do or don't eat can help remove these "bad fats." With the poison gone, cells stop making excess cholesterol for protection. So what don't we eat? Don't eat sugar, especially alcohol or any of the growing number of products with high fructose corn syrup. Stop all fried, salty, refined or processed foods, fatty dairy products or fatty meats. When we tell patients this, many tell us we have just eliminated everything they eat. In fact we have just described the Standard American or Aruban Diet (SAD).

Ok, what do we eat? Fresh fruits and vegetables, lean meats, but not pork, whole grains like brown rice oats or quinoa, a Peruvian supergrain. Wheat is not the best choice for many people because of allergies and gluten intolerance. Fish that swim constantly in deep water are loaded with "good" HDL cholesterol which is needed to manufacture some very wonderful hormones, like sex hormones. Medicinal oils packed with HDL include: olive, evening primrose, black currant, flax, safflower and soy. Herbs that lower LDL/triglycerides (bad cholesterol) are Shiitake mushrooms, cayenne, ginger, cat's claw, garlic and turmeric.

"Good cholesterol" producing foods which include essential fatty acids (EFA) rich in Omega 3, 6 and 9 in the correct proportions have changed with modern diets. Most of us are not getting enough Omega 3's and some of us are not getting enough of omega 3 and 6. Supplementing with Flax oil or Omega fish oils is more important than ever. Lecithin is good oil I consider a basic, especially for protecting the brain. Make sure you only use fish oils certified to be free of toxins like Mercury.

Eat smaller meals, especially before bed. While you sleep, the stomach also sleeps and food does not digest properly. Want to get all this under control quickly? Eat only brown rice for three weeks. Nothing else! Include lots of water and moderate exercise. It's always best to do a cleansing diet like this with the supervision of a clinical nutritionist.

Get the point! Not all cholesterol is bad. Cholesterol lowering drugs and their known side effects are not the only choice. We need good cholesterol to protect our brains and nerves. Changes in diet and lifestyle can naturally help control not only "bad" cholesterol, but you might find improvement with symptoms of high blood pressure, arthritis, and diabetes. Call us for a full eval-



uation of the good and the bad of your health. Let us teach you how to turn the "ugly" into "beautiful!" CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270 FAX: 585-4789, Web Sight: www.vianaheal.com

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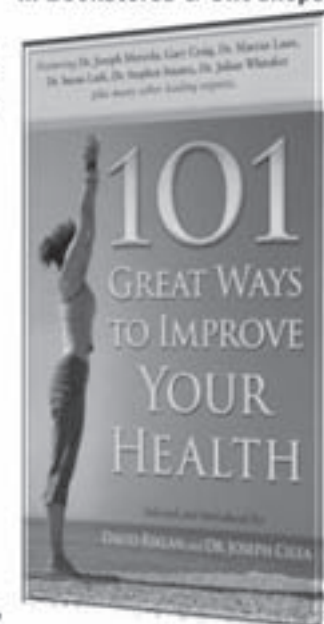
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Co-authored by Aruba's
Carlos Viana, O.M.D., C.C.N.

Reviews of Apple MacBook Air, T-Mobile MyTouch 4G Slide, more

Omar L. Gallaga
© 2011 Cox Newspapers
AUSTIN, Texas -- Here are a few tech items -- an ultra-thin laptop from Apple, an Android smartphone and wireless broadband stick from T-Mobile, and Time Warner's highest-speed Internet tier -- that have caught our eye this summer and are worth a look.

Apple MacBook Air 13-inch (mid-2011 model)
Last month, Apple unveiled new models of the MacBook Air, its very thin, very light, 11-inch and 13-inch laptops. The Air is wedge-shaped and even thinner and more impressively slight than it appears in photos. The recent refresh adds better performance with significantly more powerful Intel processors, Thunderbolt technology -- which promises faster transfer speeds and more versatile ways to connect devices -- and a backlit keyboard. But the biggest advantage the MacBook Air has is that it comes standard with a solid-state drive (SSD) instead of a hard drive. Imagine my surprise when, in everyday tasks like opening Web pages or editing photos, the Air seemed speedier than my new hard-drive-based MacBook Pro, which costs about \$1,000.

The 13-inch Air provided to us for testing by Apple was fast and capable. The most impressive thing I discovered: You can reboot a MacBook Air and have it ready for action in 16 seconds on Mac OS X Lion. What doesn't it have that its more expensive Pro counterparts do? No optical/DVD drive, no HD-quality webcam (the Facetime camera is standard-def), and smaller drive capacities, the trade-off for faster SSD technology.

The 11-inch model, which starts at \$999, replacing the old white plastic MacBook, has a 64-gigabyte drive and comes with 2 gigabytes of RAM. The 13-inch model, which starts at \$1,299, has a 128-gigabyte drive, an SD-memory slot and 4 gigabytes of memory standard. The MacBook Air doesn't have the graphical horsepower to run the latest video games, but for even video editing and major multitasking, the Airs no longer seem stymied in their ability to keep up with most laptop users.

T-Mobile MyTouch 4G Slide and Rocket 3.0 Laptop Stick
T-Mobile's MyTouch 4G Slide has a modest-sized touch screen (3.7 inches), an illuminated slide-out physical keyboard with

nice spaced-out keys and a dedicated camera button on the side, all without too much bulk. The camera button is a key feature on the Slide because the phone's biggest

smartphone cameras. Battery life on it is better than it is on larger Android phones but still is not quite as good as the latest iPhone. It costs \$199 with a two-year contract. If you're

via USB. Unlike WiFi hotspot devices like Verizon's MiFi or T-Mobile's own Mobile Hotspot, the Rocket can only deliver service to one computer at a time. In Austin and New Braunfels



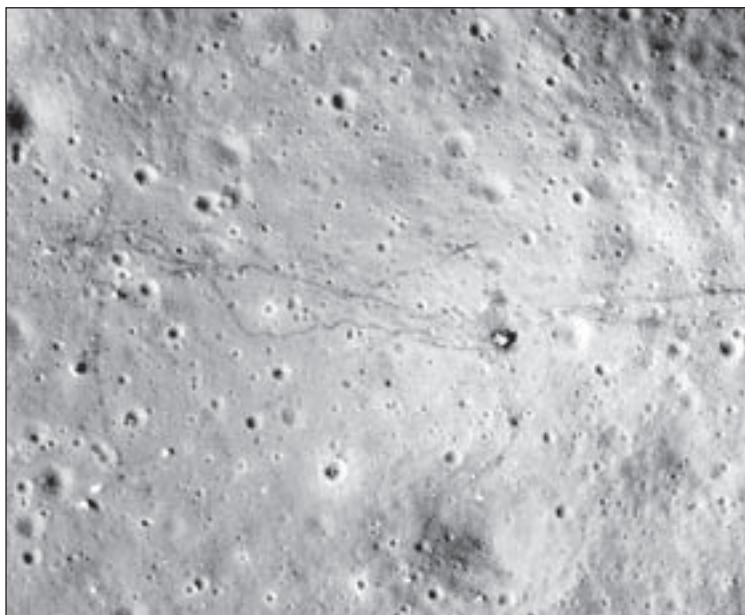
The new MacBook Air is very thin, very light, with both 11-inch and 13-inch laptops. The Air is wedge-shaped and even thinner and more impressively slight than it appears in photos.

selling point is its 8-megapixel, dual LED-flash camera, which can record 1080p video and has a variety of shooting modes (close-up, action and night, for instance). Outdoor photos and pictures taken in decent conditions do look quite good, especially compared with most

in the market for a 4G phone on T-Mobile's network, you take a lot of photos and you need a physical keyboard, this one's a good match for you. Another product running on T-Mobile's 4G wireless network is the Rocket 3.0, a laptop stick that can deliver Internet to Macs or PCs

(where I work and live), the 4G service was reliable and I got 15 Mbps download speeds and 1.5 Mbps upload speeds. That seemed great to me until I saw that T-Mobile is advertising the stick as being capable of 42 Mbps download speeds, which I never came close to achieving. □

Astronauts' tracks, trash seen in new moon photos



This August 2011 image made available by NASA shows paths left by walking astronauts, single lines, and lunar buggy tracks, parallel lines, from the 1972 U.S. Apollo 17 moon mission. NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter made this and other photographs of lunar landing sites from 13 to 15 miles above the moon's surface.

(AP Photo/NASA)

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — A spacecraft circling the moon has snapped the sharpest photos ever of the tracks and trash left behind by Apollo astronauts in their visits from 1969 to 1972. Images taken by NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter from 13 to 15 miles up show the astronauts' paths when they walked on the moon, as well as ruts left by a moon buggy. Experts could even identify the backpacks astronauts pitched out of their lunar landers before they returned to Earth.

"What we're seeing is a trail," said Arizona State University geology professor Mark Robinson, the or-

biter's chief scientist. "It's totally awesome." However, the photos were not close enough to see individual bootprints, Robinson said. The pictures were taken two weeks ago and show the landing sites for Apollo 12, 14 and 17. The closest images are of the 1972 Apollo 17 site, the last moon mission. Apollo 17 Commander Eugene Cernan wrote in an email to The Associated Press that the photo gives him a chance to revisit those days, "this time with a little nostalgia and disappointment. Nostalgia because those special days are fondly etched in my memory and disappointment because it looks like now we will not be going back within the days I

have left on this planet." Two years ago, images from the same spacecraft from 30 and 60 miles out showed fuzzier images. But this year the orbiter dipped down to take about 300,000 more close-ups. The trails left by the astronauts are clear, but the places where backpacks were discarded, Apollo 17's moon buggy, and the bottom parts of the three lunar landers are blurry. "You have to really look at it for a long time to figure out what you're looking at," Robinson said. For example, when it comes to the moon buggy he said, "if you squint really hard you can resolve the wheels and that the wheels are slightly turned to the left." □

Swiss Central Bank to cap Franc's rise

DAVID JOLLY

© 2011 New York Times

PARIS — Alarmed by the threat a soaring currency poses to Switzerland's economy, the country's central bank sought Tuesday to cap the value of the franc against the euro and said it was prepared to spend an unlimited amount to defend it.

The Swiss currency, long

limited quantities," said the statement, which was unusual for its strong wording. The franc fell sharply, with the euro rallying to 1.20527 Swiss francs in afternoon trading Tuesday in New York from 1.1201 francs late Friday.

The dollar soared to 0.8624 Swiss franc from 0.7880 franc late Friday.

The central bank's move



Coins of 1 Euro, right, and coins of 1 Swiss Franc and 20 centime, left, pictured in Lausanne, Switzerland, Tuesday, September 6, 2011. The Swiss National Bank set a ceiling on the value of the country's strong currency on Tuesday, using what experts called a last-ditch "nuclear option" to protect its economy and keep exporters competitive. The bank said it would spend whatever it takes to keep the currency from strengthening beyond 1.20 francs per euro and indicated it might take more measures to weaken it further.

(AP Photo/Keystone, Laurent Gillieron)

considered a haven in crises, has surged against the euro and the dollar this year as investors have fled turmoil in the markets. That has raised fears among Swiss companies that the country's exporters will be priced out of business abroad.

"The current massive overvaluation of the Swiss franc poses an acute threat to the Swiss economy and carries the risk of a deflationary development," the Swiss National Bank said in a statement.

It said it was "therefore aiming for a substantial and sustained weakening of the Swiss franc."

The central bank "will no longer tolerate" an exchange rate below 1.20 francs to the euro, and "will enforce this minimum rate with the utmost determination and is prepared to buy foreign currency in un-

underscores the particular challenges facing Switzerland amid global economic uncertainty.

The bank's chairman, Philipp M. Hildebrand, has been roundly criticized at home for the strength of the franc, though it is mainly a reflection of problems elsewhere.

Holger Schmieding, chief economist at Berenberg Bank in London, described the Swiss National Bank as "probably the best-run central bank in the Western world." But with a "grossly overvalued currency," Switzerland risks falling into a deflationary trap as imports become relatively cheaper, he wrote in a note.

Deflation, a generalized decline in prices, increases the burden on debtors and tends to paralyze an economy as consumers guard their money in anticipation of lower prices. □

Treasury yields plunge as stock markets swoon

DANIEL WAGNER

AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fears about the weakness in the U.S. economy and Europe's financial crisis caused Treasury prices to rally on Tuesday, sending long-term interest rates lower. Traders dumped stocks in search of lower-risk investments. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note traded below 2 percent, near the lowest point on record, as strong demand for U.S. government debt boosted Treasury prices.

Analysts said the rush into Treasuries reflects a deluge of bad economic news.

"Concerns about another recession are the highest we've seen since we got out of the last recession," said Jason Rogan, director of U.S. Treasury trading at Guggenheim Capital Markets in New York.

Rogan said the economy might be in for a long period of very slow growth, or it might begin to shrink. Either way, he said, traders want the safest investments they can find. U.S. Treasuries fit the bill.

The ultra-low yield means demand for Treasuries is sharply higher. Bond yields



On Wall Street, fears about the weakness in the U.S. economy and Europe's financial crisis caused Treasury prices to rally on Tuesday, sending long-term interest rates lower. Traders dumped stocks in search of lower-risk investments.

fall when their prices rise. When demand is high for debt issued by the U.S. Treasury, the government can find lenders easily and pay relatively low interest rates. When buyers are scarce, the government must pay higher rates to make the investments more attractive. Treasuries were plenty attractive on Tuesday as global stock markets fell. The Dow Jones industrial average lost as many as 307 points in morning trad-

ing, but recouped much of those losses and closed down 100 points. European markets had plunged on Monday, sending the Stoxx 600 index 4.1 percent lower. U.S. markets were closed Monday for the Labor Day holiday. Other news from the U.S. and Europe has pushed traders toward safer bets: — The U.S. economy is barely growing. The government reported Friday that job growth was zero last month. □

Report: Bartz out as CEO of Yahoo

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Carol Bartz is no longer CEO of Yahoo Inc., according to a report by the Wall Street Journal's All Things D technology blog.

The situation around her departure is unclear, the report said, citing anonymous sources. But the blog says Chief Financial Officer Tim Morse has been named interim CEO. Bartz sent an e-mail out to employees saying she had been fired by Chairman Roy Bostock Tuesday, the blog reported.

Bartz, 63, has had a rocky tenure at Yahoo since she was appointed CEO in January 2009. Most recently, Yahoo settled a dispute surrounding a Chinese payment service called Alipay in a way that ended up di-



Carol Bartz, CEO of Yahoo, attends a news conference in New York. Bartz is no longer CEO of Yahoo Inc., according to a report by the Wall Street Journal's All Things D technology blog. The situation around her departure is unclear, the report said, citing anonymous sources. But the blog says Chief Financial Officer Tim Morse has been named interim CEO.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

minishing Yahoo's stake in the company. Yahoo shares jumped

74 cents, or 5.7 percent, to \$13.65 in after-hours trading. □



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The U.S. can add 1 million jobs by 2018 and collect an additional \$36 billion in tax and royalty revenue over the next four years if it dramatically expands oil and gas production in coastal waters where drilling is banned now, according to a study to be released today.

Oil industry ties job to expanded drilling

JENNIFER A. DLOUHY

© 2010 Houston Chronicle

WASHINGTON - The U.S. can add 1 million jobs by 2018 and collect an additional \$36 billion in tax and royalty revenue over the next four years if it dramatically expands oil and gas production in coastal waters where drilling is banned now, according to a study to be released today.

According to the analysis by Wood Mackenzie and commissioned by the American Petroleum Institute, a top industry lobbying arm, policies that encourage development of oil and natural gas resources in the U.S. and Canada could add 1.4 million jobs by 2030. The study also concludes that expanded domestic development could translate into an additional 1.27 million barrels of oil equivalent produced daily by 2015.

API is releasing the report - and kicking off a new nationwide advertising campaign tied to it - one day before President Barack Obama tells the nation his plan for revving up the U.S. economy.

The administration, Republican presidential candidates, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and a range of industries are jockeying to advance their interests while adding jobs. Several GOP candidates have touted expanded domestic energy development as a solution, and the Chamber of Commerce, a business lobby, included that in its proposal.

"With unemployment persistently high (and) with the focus on jobs, the oil and natural gas industry can make a significant contribution to job creation," said API President Jack Gerard. "We're hopeful the president will seize on some of this and will say you know what, this doesn't take an economic stimulus, this is private sector stimulus and the oil and gas industry stands ready to go."

The API plans to amplify its argument with a national television and print advertising campaign that touts the new jobs and opportunities it believes could be created with expanded drilling. □

Struggling Bank of America shakes up exec ranks

CHRISTINA REXRODE

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Embattled Bank of America Corp. shook up its management ranks on Tuesday, announcing that two key officers will leave and promoting two others to share the chief operating officer role. It's the latest effort by Brian Moynihan, the CEO since early 2010, to turn around a company that was once an industry stalwart but is still struggling under the weight of toxic mortgage loans. He took over the bank after predecessor Ken Lewis stepped down amid controversy over his purchase of Merrill Lynch. Among the changes announced late Tuesday:

— Sallie Krawcheck, head of global wealth and investment management, is leaving. A Citigroup veteran, she was hired in late 2009 toward the end of Lewis' tenure.

— Joe Price, president of the consumer bank, will also leave. He was the chief financial officer under Lewis. Moynihan moved him to run the retail bank, Moynihan's old job, in 2010, and Moynihan at the time described it as a promotion.

— David Darnell, a longtime Bank of America veteran who was elevated to the top ranks by Lewis, will become co-chief operating officer. He will share the newly created position with Tom Montag, who joined Bank of America when it bought his employer, Merrill Lynch, in early 2009.

Darnell, previously the president of commercial banking, will be responsible for consumer-targeted units including mortgages, wealth management and small business.

Montag, previously the president of global banking and markets, will be

responsible for the business units that serve companies and institutional investors, including commercial banking, the trading businesses, and Bank of America Merrill Lynch Global Research.

The changes mark one of

water at the close of business Tuesday, when shares were at \$6.99.

"I cannot imagine that Buffett is in Omaha just sitting idly by," Ely said.

Moynihan said in a statement that he wished both of them well, and he por-



Bank of America's headquarters are shown in Charlotte, N.C. Embattled Bank of America Corp. shook up its management ranks on Tuesday, announcing that two key officers will leave and promoting two others to share the chief operating officer role.

(AP Photo/Chuck Burton, File)

Moynihan's most dramatic moves to reshape the bank. Analysts wondered how investors would react when the market opens Wednesday — whether they'll view the shakeup as part of a reasoned turnaround plan or the result of a power struggle.

Krawcheck's division, which included private banking and the financial advisers who focused on serving wealthy individuals, had been doing well. It increased net income by 54 percent in the second quarter, to \$506 million from \$329 million.

Banking consultant Bert Ely said he wondered if the changes were driven by Warren Buffett, who announced Aug. 25 that he would invest \$5 billion in the bank. He also received options to buy Bank of America stock at \$7.14 per share, options which were under

trayed their departures as a means of removing a layer of management in order to cut costs.

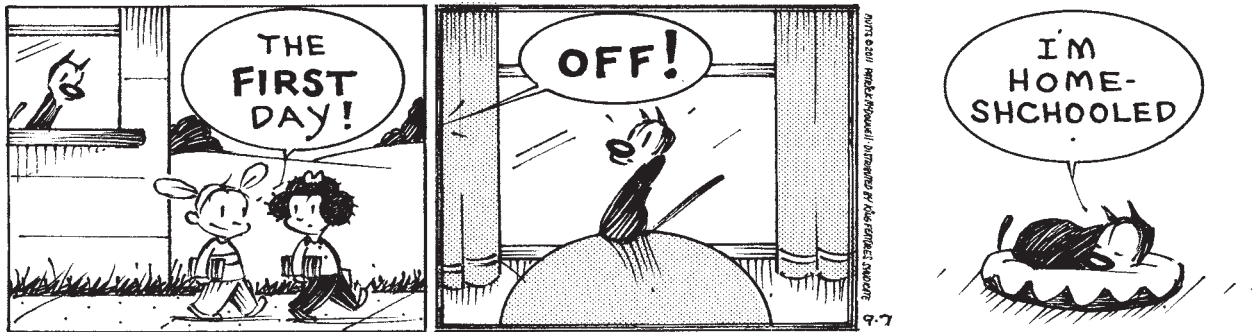
"De-layering and simplifying at the scale in which we operate requires difficult decisions," Moynihan said in a statement.

Moynihan also described the moves as a way to streamline the bank's operating units to serve its key customer groups: individuals, companies and institutional investors.

The reorganization is effective immediately, and Moynihan called the changes "a significant step in the continued transformation of our company," which has also included at least 6,000 job cuts announced this year out of a workforce of 288,000.

Since the spring, Moynihan has been spearheading a cost-cutting program called New BAC. □

Mutts



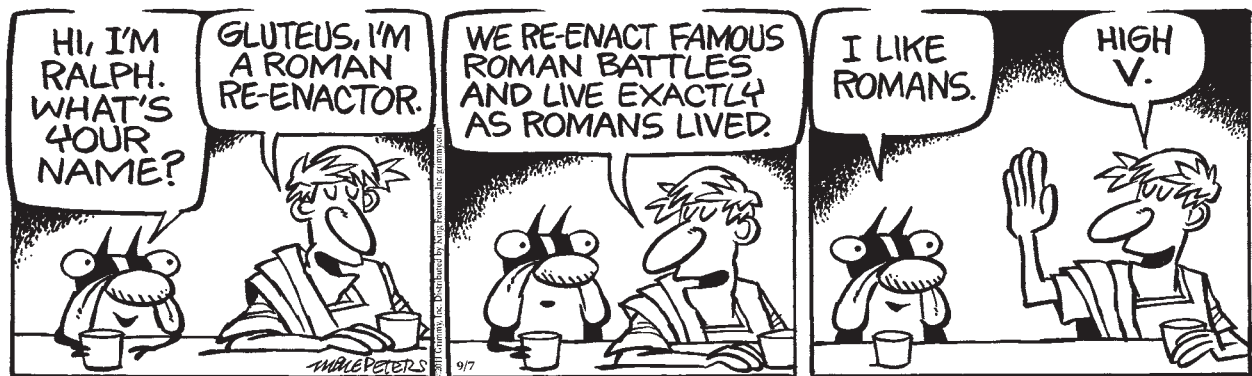
6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	3	6	2	9	1	5	8	
	1						7	
						6		
					9			
		4	8	6	5	3		
			1					
		3						
6							9	
9	8	3	5	4	7	6		

Difficulty Level ★★

9/07

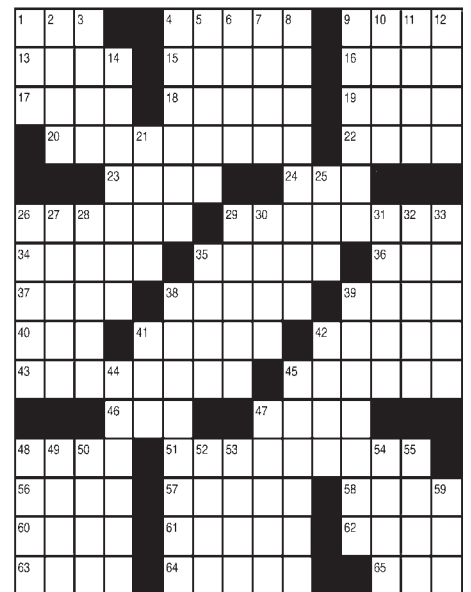
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

8	7	3	6	2	9	5	1	4
4	6	1	3	8	5	9	7	2
2	9	5	1	4	7	6	8	3
1	2	6	7	5	4	3	9	8
5	3	8	2	9	6	1	4	7
9	4	7	8	3	1	2	5	6
3	5	2	9	7	8	4	6	1
7	1	4	5	6	2	8	3	9
6	8	9	4	1	3	7	2	5

ACROSS

- 1 By way of
- 4 "A rose by any name..."
- 9 Mimicked
- 13 Fleur-de-lis
- 15 Orchard
- 16 Sled race
- 17 Apple pie à la

- 18 Fast
- 19 Feel put-; resent being taken advantage of
- 20 Neuron
- 22 Church service
- 23 Extensive
- 24 Fleming or Carmichael
- 26 Log homes
- 29 Loosest, as trousers
- 34 Quickly
- 35 Manly
- 36 Lamb's bleat
- 37 out; apportion
- 38 Surround and attack
- 39 Sulk
- 40 Curvy letter
- 41 Sheds feathers
- 42 Shrink back in pain
- 43 Fellow player for one
- 45 "Our Father,"
- 46 Above, in poetry
- 47 Blood vessel
- 48 Run-of-the-; ordinary
- 51 system; liver, stomach, intestines, etc.
- 56 "It's __, Mad, Mad, Mad World"
- 57 Chris of tennis
- 58 Nauseous
- 60 Partner
- 61 Stove
- 62 Actress Garr
- 63 In the center of
- 64 Haughty look
- 65 Failure



9/7/11

DOWN

- 1 Energy
- 2 Element whose symbol is "Fe"
- 3 Assistant
- 4 Fairy tale witch
- 5 Stretch of land
- 6 Actress Lange
- 7 Wicked
- 8 Signal to stop
- 9 Graduates
- 10 Insect stage
- 11 Personalities
- 12 Hideaways
- 14 Secret __; presidential protectors
- 21 Weathercock
- 25 In the past
- 26 U. S. Air Force Academy pupil
- 27 Strike __; sit for a photographer
- 28 Light wood ideal for rafts
- 29 Sew lightly
- 30 High cards
- 31 Black shade
- 32 Gravy

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

S	O	S	O	H	I	D	E	S		F	L	A	N	
O	M	A	R		A	C	O	R	N		L	U	G	E
M	E	L	D		R	E	N	E	E		O	R	E	S
E	N	T	E	R	E	D	N	E	A	T	E	S		
				R	A	M				H	O	R	N	S
S	C	A	L	P		P	A	W		D	A	D	D	Y
H	O	L	Y		J	A	M		D	E	M	U	R	E
A	C	T		A	U	S	S	I	E	S	B	A	A	
C	O	A	S	T	S	T	A	B		H	A	I	T	
K	A	R	A	T		B	E	N		B	A	I	T	S
				D	I	C	E	R		C	U	B		
S	P	E	N	C	E	R		F	A	M	I	N	E	S
T	A	L	E		S	A	B	E	R		T	I	D	E
A	L	M	S		A	T	I	L	T		A	L	G	A
B	E	S	S		R	E	N	T	S		T	E	E	M

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9/7/11

- 33 Spud
- 35 Dissolve
- 38 Lodgers
- 39 Liberace, e.g.
- 41 French Mrs.
- 42 Written judicial order
- 44 Shaped
- 45 Annoy
- 47 Brink
- 48 Baby's cry
- 49 Mosque leader
- 50 ...fa, so
- 52 the Terrible
- 53 Autry or Kelly
- 54 Competed
- 55 Shade of beige
- 59 Child

Today In History

Today is Wednesday, September 7, the 250th day of 2011. There are 115 days left in the year.
Highlights in history on this date:

1599 - Britain's Earl of Essex signs truce with Irish rebel Tyrone.

1701 - Treaty of the Hague, known as the Grand Alliance, is signed, as Britain, Holland and Holy Roman Empire ally against France.

1714 - France signs Peace of Baden with Holy Roman Empire, as France keeps Alsace and Strasbourg.

1822 - Brazil proclaims independence from Portugal.

1860 - Forces under Giuseppe Garibaldi enter Naples, the capital of the Kingdom of Two Sicilies, four months after he landed with 1,000 volunteers in Sicily.

1901 - Peace of Peking ends Boxer Rebellion in China.

.escape through long underground tunnels.

2007 - Osama bin Laden appears for the first time in three years in a videotape released ahead of the sixth anniversary of the Sept. 11

attacks, telling Americans they should convert to Islam if they want the war in Iraq to end.

2010 - The international crossfire over Iran's stoning



Today is Evan Rachel Wood's birthday

sentence for a woman convicted of adultery intensifies with a top European Union official calling it "barbaric" and an Iranian spokesman saying it's about punishing a

criminal and not a human rights issue.

Today's Birthdays:

Giacomo Ancionio, Italian theologist (1492-1566); England's Queen Elizabeth I (1533-1603); August Kekule von Stradonitz, German chemist (1829-1896); Elia Kazan, U.S. film director (1909--); Todor Zhivkov, Communist ruler of Bulgaria (1911-1998); Belgium's King Baudouin (1930-1993); Leroi Moore, saxophonist (1961-2008); Sonny Rollins, U.S. jazz musician (1930--), Gloria Gaynor, U.S. singer (1949--), Chrissie Hynde, U.S. singer (1951--); Evan Rachel Wood, actress (1987--).

Thought for Today:

My definition of an educated man is the fellow who knows the right thing to do at the time it has to be done. ... You can be sincere and still be stupid — Charles F. Kettering, American inventor (1876-1958). □

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ALICIA CHANG

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The East Coast earthquake left more than just residents unaccustomed to feeling the ground shake and sway in a daze. It also surprised some scientists who spend their careers trying to untangle the mysteries of sudden ground shifts.

Despite decades of research, earthquake prediction remains elusive. As much as society would like scientists to tell us when a jolt is coming, mainstream seismologists are generally pessimistic about ever having that ability.

They lived through the checkered history of earthquake prediction, filled with passionate debates, failed oracles and the enduring search for warning



An angel, carved from Indiana limestone, lies shattered amid other damage on the roof of the Washington National Cathedral in Washington, Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2011, after Tuesday's earthquake.
Associated Press

up its secrets.

In recent years, however, a more hopeful camp has emerged, pushed by researchers using satellites who say it may be possible to someday predict earthquakes from space and others who think they can tease out signals in rocks.

The two schools of thought swapped notes during a two-day meeting in Los Angeles weeks before a relatively mild magnitude-5.8 rattled the Eastern Seaboard.

"I was pretty skeptical going in and I remain skeptical," said Washington state seismologist John Vidale, who was among 44 scientists from around the world who attended the invitation-only meeting.

Geophysicist Malcolm Johnston with the U.S. Geological Survey agreed.

"I've been chasing this for a long time," he said. "If you think you can detect the start of an earthquake, it's going to be very, very difficult."

How earthquakes occur is well known.

The Earth's crust is like a giant jigsaw puzzle, broken into several pieces known as tectonic plates that constantly bump and grind or slide past each other. The movement happens slowly, about the speed at which our fingernails grow. Eventually, there's enough pent-up stress and the rocks suddenly slip, releasing tremendous energy that we feel as shaking.

Most earthquakes are small and imperceptible. Occasionally, a powerful one wreaks havoc like the ones that ravaged Haiti last year and coastal Japan in March. No one knows how a small rumble can cascade into a big one.

Spurred in part by a pair of megaquakes in the 1960s, scientists began looking in earnest for signals that will help them distinguish a serious quake from the garden variety. Hopes were high for reading the seismic tea leaves. They scoured for anything and everything that might be a clue: warping in the Earth's crust, radon gas releases along a fault, weird weather and even the behavior of cockroaches, snakes and other animals. □

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Rising stars Aldean, Shelton shake up CMA



Susie Brown of the JaneDear Girls announce some of the nominees for the 45th annual Country Music Association Awards on Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011, in Nashville, Tenn. The show is scheduled to be held Nov. 9 in Nashville.

(AP Photo/Donn Jones)

CHRIS TALBOTT
AP Entertainment Writer
NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)

— After a decade toiling away at the microphone without much recognition, Jason Aldean and Blake Shelton are breaking through in a big way. Two of country's leading men nabbed their first Country Music Association Awards entertainer of the year nominations Tuesday, upsetting recent trends and leading a popular pack with five nominations apiece. They join previous entertainer winners Brad Paisley, Taylor Swift and Keith Urban in the CMA's most prestigious category. Paisley and Swift also are up for five awards. "To be honest, I secretly hoped that I'd get this nomination one day, but I never thought I actually would," Shelton said in a statement. "After 10 years of watching my friends receive this incredible honor, I got pretty used to being a cheerleader for them, ya know?"

He began receiving more nominations last year, winning two awards at the 2010 CMAs. But his move into television as a coach on NBC's "The Voice," an invitation to join the Grand Ole Opry and the success of his single "Honey Bee" — not to mention his marriage to Miranda Lambert — has helped bring him to the forefront of country music. Like Shelton, Aldean has been slowly gaining awards show attention the last few years after hitting the trifecta of arena tours, platinum albums and radio airplay. But his previous nominations pale compared to the ones he earned Tuesday morning. Along with entertainer of the year, he took nominations in three coveted categories — album of the year for "My Kinda Party," single of the year for "Don't You Wanna Stay," featuring Kelly Clarkson, and male vocalist of the year. "That's kind of the cool thing about this whole deal

for us," Aldean said in a phone interview. "A lot of this stuff is first-time stuff for us. I think the general consensus whenever we get nominations, especially the big ones, is that's pretty special. Not only for me but my whole camp, for everyone involved. We're all kind of experiencing this stuff for the first time, so I think everybody's genuinely excited and sometimes surprised. It's a good feeling to know when you've been working all this time and people are taking notice." The Band Perry and Jake Owen made the initial announcement of five categories Tuesday on ABC's "Good Morning America." Jerrod Niemann and two-time nominee Thompson Square announced the remainder of the nominees later at The Ryman Auditorium in Nashville.

Zac Brown Band and The Band Perry were next with four nominations apiece. Kenny Chesney was nominated for three awards, including male vocalist of the year, but country music's top touring draw was left out of an entertainer of the year category he won four straight times before essentially taking a year off. Swift, who won entertainer of the year in 2009, is also up for female vocalist of the year with Carrie Underwood, Martina McBride, Sara Evans and Lambert, who won the honor last year on her 27th birthday. Lambert's husband, Shelton, will defend his male vocalist of the year award this year against Paisley, Urban, Aldean and Chesney. The Band Perry will compete with Lady Antebellum, Rascal Flatts, Zac Brown Band and Little Big Town in the vocal group category. And the sibling trio is nominated with Luke Bryan, Eric Church, Thompson Square and Chris Young in the new artist of the year category. Coveted album of the year nominations went to Shelton for "All About Tonight," Aldean for "My Kinda Party," Swift's "Speak Now," Paisley's "This is Country Music" and "You Get What You Give" by Zac Brown Band. □



Actress Sarah Bolger poses for portraits after interviews for her film *The Moth Diaries* at the 68th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy, Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011.

(AP Photo/Joel Ryan)

Regis Philbin to exit 'Live' in November

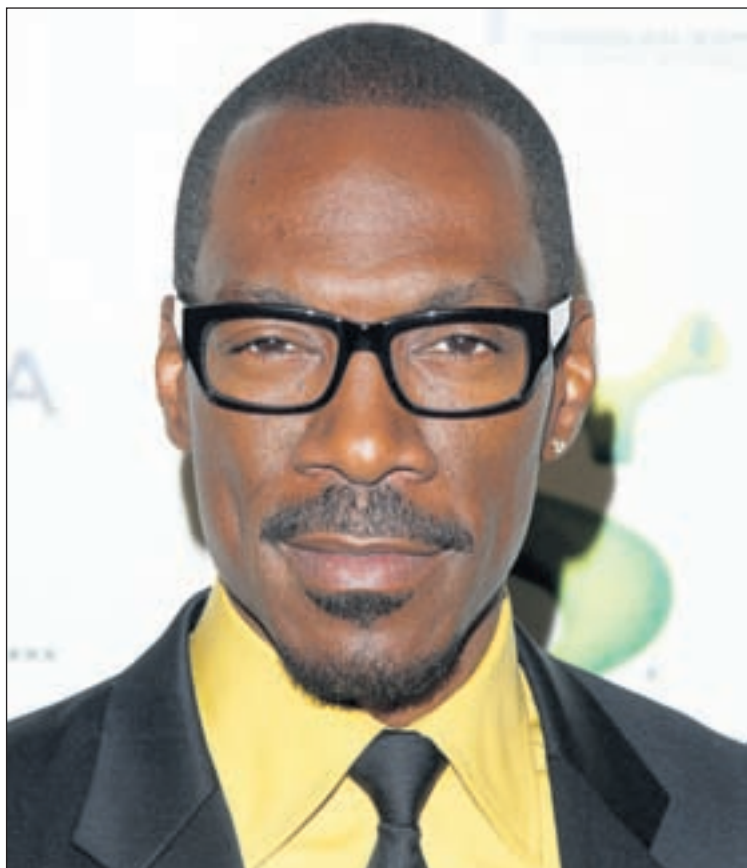


Talk legend Regis Philbin says he'll retire from his talk show on November 18, 2011.

NEW YORK (AP) — Regis Philbin says he'll retire from his talk show on November 18. The veteran TV personality made the announce-

ment on Tuesday's edition of "Live with Regis and Kelly" as it began its 24th season in national syndication. Philbin announced last January that he planned to leave the show by year's end, but didn't specify a date. The show will continue with Kelly Ripa, who joined him as co-host a decade ago. No new co-host has yet been chosen to team up with Ripa. Philbin, who turned 80 last month, has been a TV fixture since the 1950s. A three-time Emmy Award winner, he was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences at the Daytime Emmy Awards in 2008. □

Eddie Murphy selected to host Academy Awards



Actor Eddie Murphy attends the premiere of "Shrek Forever After" during the 2010 Tribeca Film Festival in New York. Murphy will host this year's Academy Awards show on Sunday, Feb. 26, 2012, telecast producers Brett Ratner and Don Mischer announced Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011.

(AP Photo/Peter Kramer, file)

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Eddie Murphy is hosting the Oscars. The actor and comedian will host the 84th annual Academy Awards, producers Brett Ratner and Don Mischer said Tuesday. Ratner called the 50-year-old entertainer "a comedic

genius; one of the greatest and most influential live performers ever." "With his love of movies, history of crafting unforgettable characters and his iconic performances — especially on stage — I know he will bring excitement, spontaneity and tremen-

dous heart to the show Don and I want to produce in February," Ratner said. Mischer called Murphy "a truly groundbreaking performer" whose "quick wit and charisma will serve him very well as Oscar host." This will be Murphy's first time hosting the Academy Awards. He said in a statement Tuesday that he is "enormously honored" to join the ranks of past Academy Awards hosts such as Johnny Carson, Bob Hope, Billy Crystal, Steve Martin and Whoopi Goldberg. Murphy started his career as a standup comic when he was 15 and has gone on to amass dozens of film credits as a writer, actor and producer. He was nominated for an Oscar in 2006 for his supporting role in "Dreamgirls." His stint as Oscar host marks a return to the single-host format the show has employed most often since the mid-1980s. Pairs of actors hosted the two most recent Oscar shows: Anne Hathaway and James Franco helmed the 2011 telecast, and Steve Martin and Alec Baldwin hosted last year. The 84th annual Academy Awards will be held Feb. 26, 2012 at the Kodak Theatre. □



In this undated image released by ABC, former contestant on the romance reality series "The Bachelorette," Ben Flajnik is shown. Flajnik will star in the next edition of "The Bachelor," when it returns to ABC in January 2012.

(AP Photo/ABC, Craig Sjodin)

Ben Flajnik named as next 'Bachelor'

NEW YORK (AP) — Ben Flajnik, who proposed to Ashley Hebert and was rejected on ABC's "The Bachelorette," is getting another chance at finding love on camera. The network confirms it has tapped the 28-year-old northern California winemaker to star in the next season of "The Bachelor." The show will return in January for its 16th season. On "The Bachelor," single women live in a house together and compete for the affection of a single man. So far, no bachelor has gone on to marry the woman he picked while on the show. Hebert is now engaged to J.P. Rosenbaum. She chose him in the season finale of "The Bachelorette." □



Ashton Kutcher meets with fans before a taping of the "Late Show with David Letterman," in New York, Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2011. New "Two and a Half Men" star Ashton Kutcher and Zooey Deschanel, star of the new series "New Girl," will present Emmys during the ceremony.

(AP Photo/Charles Sykes)

Kutcher, Vergara, Arnett among Emmy presenters

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Some of TV's top stars aren't just nominated for Emmy Awards; they're going to help present them. The television academy says Emmy nominees Amy Poehler, Will Arnett, Sofia Vergara and Julianna Margulies will help hand out awards at the Sept. 18 ceremony. Poehler is a double nominee, as lead actress and producer of the comedy series "Parks and Recreation." Her husband, Arnett, is up for guest actor in a comedy for "30 Rock." Vergara is nominated for supporting actress in a comedy for "Modern Family," and Margulies is up again for an award she won last year: Lead actress in a drama series for "The Good Wife." New "Two and a Half Men" star Ashton Kutcher and Zooey Deschanel, star of the new series "New Girl," will also present Emmys. □

It's still the 9/11 era



ROSS DOUTHAT
© 2011 New York Times

Osama bin Laden is dead. So is Saddam Hussein, and Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, and too many al-Qaida No. 3's to count. Khalid Sheikh Mohammed is awaiting his military tribunal. George W. Bush is home on the ranch, Dick Cheney is on book tour, and even Gen. David Petraeus is a general no more, having traded in his stars for a civilian position atop the CIA.

But 10 years to the week after the twin towers fell, we are still living in the 9/11 era. The names and faces are different, the White House has changed hands, and the country has turned its gaze from our distant wars to the economic crisis on the home front. But U.S. foreign policy is still defined by the choices our leaders made while ground zero smoldered, and the objectives they set. Our approach to the world was fundamentally altered by 9/11, and nothing that's happened since has undone that transformation.

Part of this transformation was tactical: a shift from a criminal justice approach to counterterrorism that emphasized investigations, arrests and successful prosecutions, to a wartime approach that emphasized detention, interrogation and assassination. The other part was strategic: a decision that America's national security required promoting democracy across the Muslim world – by force of arms, if necessary – rather than accepting the kind of stability that various dictators had promised to supply. Taken together, these two shifts gave us the Bush administration's most controversial policies, from Guantanamo Bay and "extraordinary rendition" to the invasion of Iraq and the nation-building effort that followed. Some of those policies were walked back in the second Bush term. (The waterboard vanished from our interrogation repertoire, and there were no further wars of choice.) But the overall transformation endured. It has endured under Barack Obama as well, his campaign promises notwithstanding. We are still fighting a war on terrorist groups, complete with the indefinite detention, drone attacks and covert warfare that infuriated civil libertarians during the Bush presidency. Mean-

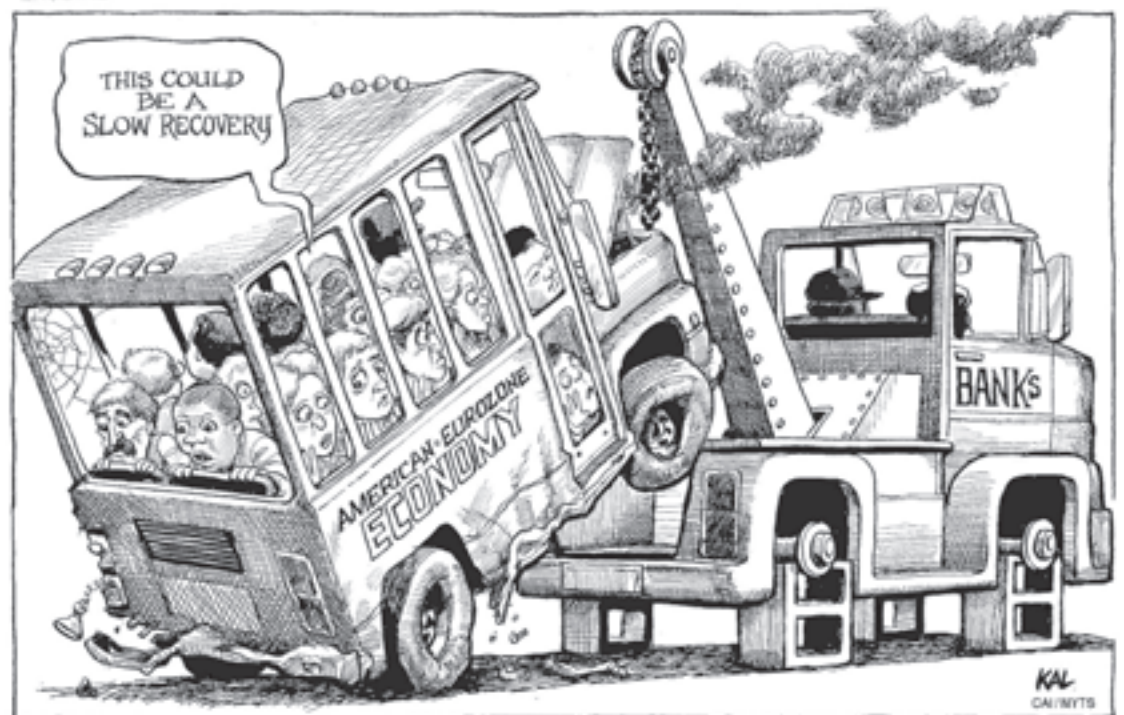
while, Obama's first term has featured an expanded nation-building effort in Afghanistan, a regime change operation in Libya, a possibly permanent military footprint in Iraq – and the gradual adoption, amid the ferment of the Arab Spring, of Bush's freedom agenda rhetoric as well.

The question is whether this continuity is evidence of success or an example of the stay-the-course bias to which all governments are prone. Here it's worth asking a version of Ronald Reagan's famous question: Are we better off than we were 10 years ago? The case for answering yes is strongest on the counterterrorism front, where our shadow war has clearly diminished our enemies' capacity to do us harm in ways that our pre-9/11 efforts never did.

There are significant moral costs to a policy that depends on routinized assassination and detention without trial. But 10 years without a major attack, the death of Osama bin Laden and the steady degradation of al-Qaida and its affiliates are not achievements to be taken lightly. The United States will always be vulnerable to terrorists, but in the decade since we were blindsided by Mohammed Atta's team of hijackers, our spies and SEALs and interrogators have dramatically improved our odds.

On the strategic front, though, it is extremely difficult to argue that America's geopolitical position is stronger today than it was 10 years ago.

Some of this weakening was inevitable: Our extraordinary post-cold-war dominance couldn't last forever, and the rise of rival powers is a phenomenon to be managed rather than resisted. But our post-9/11 attempts to transform the Muslim world have cost trillions of dollars and thousands of lives, and won us – well, what? A liberated Iraq that's more in Iran's sphere of influence than ours, an Afghan war in which U.S. casualties keep rising, an Arab Spring that threatens to encircle Israel with enemies, a Middle East where our list of reliable allies grows thin ... This list doesn't account for various counterfactuals (how much worse off we might be with Saddam Hussein in power, for instance). Nor does it account for democracy promotion's long-term benefits. But after 10 years of conflict, we aren't exactly in short-term territory anymore. And pointing out that things could have been worse doesn't change the fact that our post-9/11 grand strategy has been associated with a steady erosion of America's position in the world. In this context, the fact that Obama has kept the United States enmeshed in occupations and interventions across the Muslim world isn't evidence that our strategy is working. □



Where the jobs aren't



DAVID BROOKS
© 2011 New York Times

With the economy stagnating and unemployment high, where are the jobs of the future going to come from? A few years ago, it seemed as though the Green Economy could be a big part of the answer.

New clean-energy sources could address environmental, economic and national security problems all at once. In his 2008 convention speech, Barack Obama promised to create 5 million green economy jobs. The U.S. Conference of Mayors estimated in April 2009 that green jobs could account for 10 percent of new job growth over the next 30 years.

Alas, it was not to be. The gigantic public investments in green energy may be stimulating innovation and helping the environment. But they are not evidence that the government knows how to create private-sector jobs. Recently, Aaron Glantz reported in The Times on some of the disappointments. California was awarded \$186 million in federal stimulus money to weatherize homes. So far, the program has created the equivalent of only 538 full-time jobs. A \$59 million effort to train people for green jobs in California produced only 719 job placements.

SolFocus designs solar panels in

the United States, but the bulk of its employment is in China where the panels are made. As the company spokesman told Glantz, "Taxes and labor rates" are cheaper there.

There's a wealth of other evidence to suggest that the green economy will not be a short-term jobs machine. According to Investor's Business Daily, executives at Johnson Controls turned \$300 million in green technology grants into 150 jobs – that's \$2 million per job.

Sunil Sharan, a former director of The Smart Grid Initiative at General Electric, wrote in The Washington Post that the Smart Grid, while efficient and environmentally beneficial, will be a net job destroyer. For example, 28,000 meter-reading jobs will be replaced by the Smart Grid's automatic transmitters.

A study by McKinsey suggests that clean energy may produce jobs for highly skilled engineers, but it will not produce many jobs for U.S. manufacturing workers. Gordon Hughes, formerly of the World Bank and now an economist at the University of Edinburgh, surveyed the landscape and concluded: "There are no sound economic arguments to support an assertion that green energy policies will increase the total level of employment in the medium or longer term when we hold macroeconomic conditions constant."

Many of the most celebrated green tech companies are foundering despite lavish public support. Evergreen Solar, the recipient of tens of millions of dollars in state support, moved its manufacturing facility to China before filing for bankruptcy protection.

The U.S. Department of Energy poured \$535 million in loans into Solyndra, a solar panel maker backed by George Kaiser, a major Democratic donor.

The Government Accountability Office discovered that Solyndra had been permitted to bypass required steps in the govern-

ment loan guarantee process. The Energy Department's inspector general criticized the department for not maintaining emails that discussed how the loan guarantee winners were chosen.

Late last month, Solyndra announced that it was ceasing operations, laying off its 1,100 employees. The Department of Energy placed the wrong bet, potentially losing the taxpayers half-a-billion dollars.

All of this is not to say that the government shouldn't be doing what it can to promote clean energy. It is to say that the government isn't very good when it tries to directly create private-sector jobs.

In 2009, Josh Lerner of Harvard Business School published a useful book called "Boulevard of Broken Dreams." He found that for each instance in which the government has successfully promoted entrepreneurial activity, there is a pile of instances in which it failed.

Lerner details case after case where public investments produced little or nothing. But he also makes an important distinction between government efforts to set the table for entrepreneurial activity and government efforts to create jobs directly. Setting the table means building an underlying context for innovation: funding academic research, establishing clear laws, improving immigration policies, building infrastructure and keeping capital gains tax rates low. Lerner notes that one of the most important government initiatives to encourage innovation was the Bayh-Dole Act of 1980, which gave universities automatic title to research paid by the federal government.

These table-setting efforts work. The problem is the results are indirect, the jobs take a long time to emerge and the market may end up favoring old-energy sources instead of shiny new ones. So politicians invariably go for the instant rush. □

Viral times:

'Contagion' makes pandemic feel real

DAVID GERMAIN

AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Hollywood disaster movie typically comes with quakes, asteroids, tornadoes or aliens ripping the planet to shreds and manly heroes tossing around wise-cracks as they carry out impossible deeds to save the world.

Yet Steven Soderbergh figured the more authentic a potential apocalypse feels, the scarier it becomes.

Opening Friday at U.S. theaters, Soderbergh's "Contagion" lays out a terrifying scenario — the swift spread of a deadly new virus around the globe — with a mix of personal drama and merciless realism that makes it both riveting and foreboding.

From the start, director Soderbergh and screenwriter Scott Z. Burns aimed for an ultra-realistic tale of a pandemic so genuine and lacking in Hollywood egotism that — spoiler alert — the character played by one of the top names among its A-list cast, Gwyneth Paltrow, dies horribly in the opening minutes.

"The key phrase was 'ultra-realistic.' At the end of the day, to have everything in the film either be scientifically accurate or emotionally and practically plausible would make it scarier," Soderbergh said. "We wanted to remove this barrier between the audience and the story in which you could write it off as sort of movie (nonsense)."

Like 2000's "Traffic," the drug-war saga that earned Soderbergh an Academy Award for best director, "Contagion" follows a huge cast and weaves together divergent plot lines into a tight, feverishly paced narrative.

Paltrow plays an adulterous Minnesota woman whose business trip to Asia puts her at the center of a fluke series of events in which she's infected by a virus that jumps species, from bats to pigs to humans.

With the human immune system baffled by a virus it's

never before encountered, the flu-like disease races around the world, killing people and causing panic in the United States, Great Britain, Japan, China and many other countries.

Frequent Soderbergh collaborator Matt Damon ("The Informant!," "Ocean's Elev-

"Contagion" character is an everyman at the mercy of fate like the rest of the world, keeping his head down and trying to ride out the horror of mass graves, looting, makeshift hospitals, quarantine zones and the virtual breakdown of society.

painstaking detail to make sure of that."

The story hurtles from place to place, following Kate Winslet as a Centers for Disease Control researcher risking her life in the field; Laurence Fishburne and Jennifer Ehle as virologists racing to crack the code

confined to bats could infect humans.

"We want a strong immune system, so you have to be exposed to germs," Ehle said. "The scary thing is the idea of something coming that no human being has any immunity to because it has jumped species. And no amount of washing hands will protect against that."

To develop a realistic story, screenwriter Burns worked with top virologists to determine what truly could happen.

The scenario he and Soderbergh settled on — an epidemic from a virus jumping species — is one the scientists say is likely someday as human expansion continues, Burns said.

"Everything I learned says that we are overdue, and that it is inevitable as we go into these ecotones and encroach into the wild spaces," Burns said. "We're going to put bats closer to pigs and dogs, and we're going to shake things out of the treetops that we haven't seen before."

"Contagion" also touches on another sort of infection, the spread of information — and misinformation — and the fright that can follow.

Law's character is a lone blogger with his own agenda for fanning public distrust and alarm. Damon worries that traditional newspapers and TV networks also might stoke people's anxiety.

"In times of peace and quiet, they sell fear, but I wonder if in a time of genuine fear, if they'd have the restraint to actually push out good information to kind of keep people calm," Damon said.

"Because a lot would depend on how the media behaved. If people are almost panicked, you can get them to cross the line very easily. It doesn't take a lot, but I wonder if the decision would be made in the board rooms that too much panic would actually get people to turn the TV off, and then the ad revenue wouldn't be as good. So it might be, □



In this image released by Warner Bros. Pictures, Chin Han, left, and Marion Cotillard are shown in a scene from the film "Contagion."

(AP Photo/Warner Bros. Pictures, Claudette Barius)



In this image released by Warner Bros. Pictures, Anna Jacoby-Heron, left, and Matt Damon are shown in a scene from the film "Contagion."

(AP Photo/Warner Bros. Pictures, Claudette Barius)

en") is the emotional focus of "Contagion" as Paltrow's husband, a man in denial over his wife's death and misdeeds whose sole aim is to protect his daughter through the crisis.

Unlike Damon's super-agent Jason Bourne, his

"There's no vanity in any of the performances," Damon said. "The characters are flawed. They feel very real. It feels like the world that we all live in and that this could happen, because it could. The science is really accurate. They went into

of the disease; Jude Law as a blogger who adds to the panic with conspiracy theories that the government might be withholding a cure; and Marion Cotillard as a World Health Organization official trying to track how a virus normally